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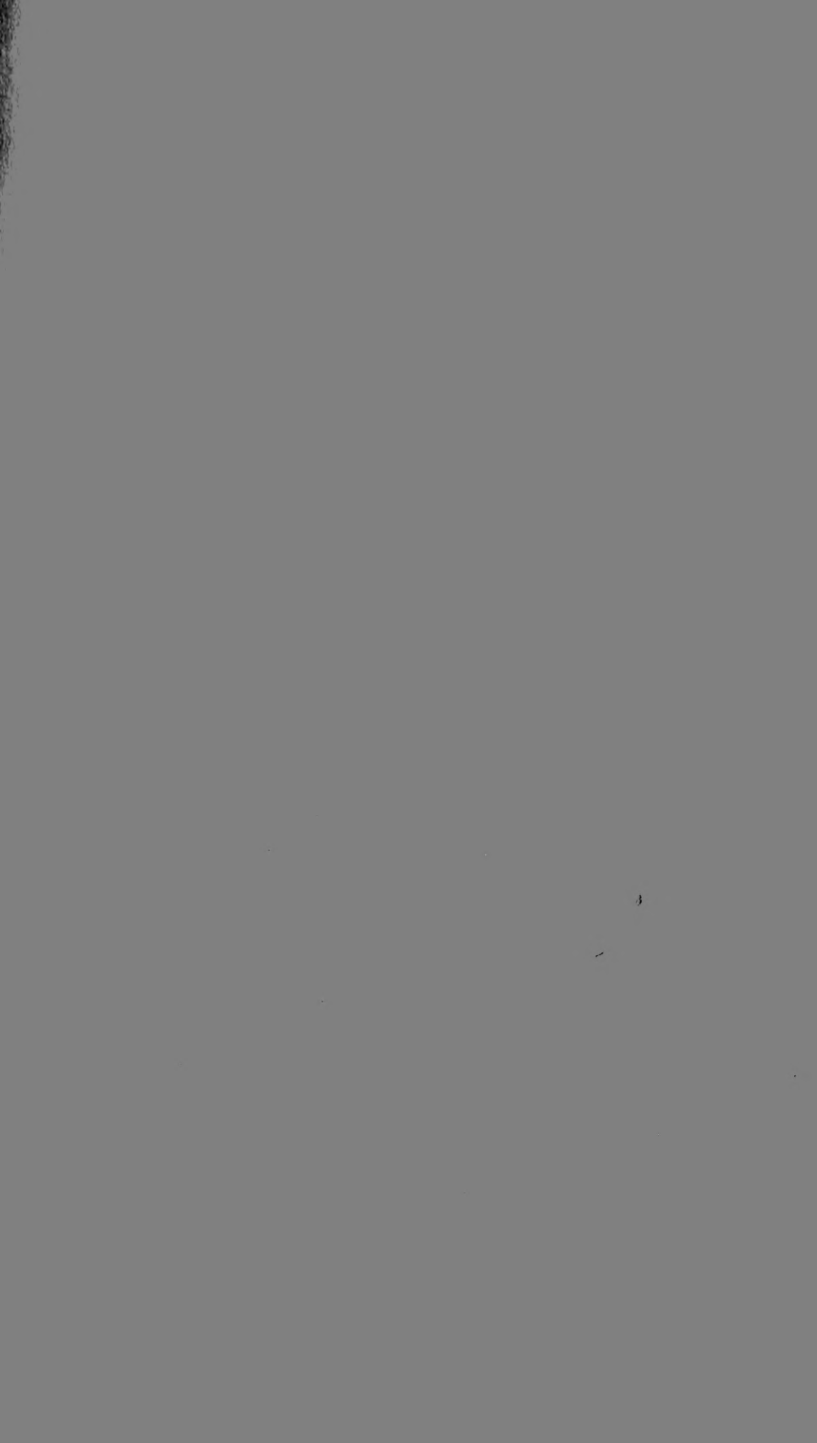


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M^{rs} Adams

THE
JOURNALS
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF
CONGRESS.

HELD AT PHILADELPHIA,

From JANUARY to MAY, 1776.

PHILADELPHIA:

PRINTED BY R. AITKEN, BOOKSELLER, OPPOSITE THE
LONDON COFFEE-HOUSE, FRONT-STREET.

M.DCC.LXXVI.

ADAMSZIL.




JOURNALS

OF

CONGRESS.

MONDAY, *January 1, 1776.*

A Letter from governor *Trumbull*, dated the *Jan. 1.* twenty-third of *December*, being received,  was read.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on captain *Selleck's* petition, which was agreed to, as follows,

That they have maturely considered the petition, and have examined captain *Simeon Selleck* particularly thereon, and are of opinion, that the petitioner be allowed, as a compensation for his expences, trouble and risk in taking the goods at *Turtlebay*, for the use of the United Colonies, the sum of 333 dollars and *one-third*; and that the committee of *Fairfield* be directed to take into their possession, for the use of the said Colonies, all the goods taken by captain *Selleck*, which are

A

not

Jan. 1. not already delivered by him, and to forward the two boxes of saltpetre, now in captain *Selleck's* custody, to the powder-mill in *Ulster* county, to be manufactured into gun-powder, for the Continental service.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the committee on Lord *Sterling's* letters, after debate thereon,

Resolved, That it be recommitted.

The Congress proceeded to the election of an adjutant for the battalion raised in *Pennsylvania*, and the ballots being taken, and examined,

John Patterson was elected.

Resolved, That the President sign commissions to the field-officers appointed by the Provincial Congress of *North Carolina*, to command the two battalions, directed to be raised in that colony by this Congress, and that such commissions bear like date with those issued to the said officers by the said Provincial Congress of *North Carolina*.

Resolved, That, in case of vacancy occasioned by the death or removal of a colonel or inferior officer, the Provincial Convention of *North Carolina*, or, in their recess, the Provincial Council, appoint another person to fill up such vacancy, until a commission shall issue from this Congress; and that they return to this Congress a list of the names of the persons so appointed.

The

The Delegates of *New-York*, having received *Jan. 1.*
 new powers from their Convention, laid the same
 before Congress, as follows,

“ *In* PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, New-York,
December 21, 1775.

“ *Resolved*, That the present Delegates of this colony in Continental Congress be requested to make such an arrangement among themselves, as that Five of them only continue at Congress, and represent this colony at any one time; and that in case of the necessary absence of any one or two of the Delegates so attending, according to such arrangement, that Three or Four of them be a quorum, and enabled to represent the colony during such absence.

“ *A true copy from the Minutes,*

JOHN M'KESSON, *Secretary.*”

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *January 2, 1776.*

The committee of claims reported, that there is due,

To *James Chambers*, the sum of 25.8 dollars for his expences from *Cambridge*.

To *Judah Alden*, 50 dollars, advanced on account of expences in attending the *French* gentlemen.

Ordered, That the above be paid.

A 2

Resolved,

Jan. 2. *Resolved*, That general *Schuyler* be directed to have brigadier general *Prescot*, lately made prisoner by the Continental forces in *Canada*, taken into custody, and him safely and securely kept until the further orders of this Congress.

Resolved, That a copy of the above be sent immediately to general *Schuyler*; and that the general be informed by letter of the reasons which induced the Congress to give such orders.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due to *Egbert Dumond*, on account of expences in bringing the prisoners, taken at *St. Johns*, from *Kingston*, in *New-York* government, to *Lancaster*, in *Pennsylvania*, the sum of 2326.2 dollars.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the committee on the petition of captains *Paddock* and *Coffin*, and after debate,

Resolved, That the prayer of said petition be not granted.

The committee on the state of *New-York* brought in their report, which was read.

The report of captain *Motte*, with regard to the disposition of the officers taken prisoners at *St. Johns*, was laid before Congress, and read.

The committee, to whom the report on Lord *Sterling's* letters was recommitted, brought in their

their report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress thereupon came to the following resolutions, Jan. 2.

Resolved, That the President acquaint his lordship, that the Congress has provided against the inconvenience of vexatious arrests of the men enlisting in the Continental service.

Resolved, That the barracks in the colony of *New-Jersey* be prepared for the reception of such of the battalions as may not be in readiness to proceed to *New-York*, and that the ministerial troops or prisoners at present occupying them, be accommodated in the said colony, in such manner as the Committee of Safety for said colony shall think most prudent and convenient.

That Mr. *Lowry*, the commissary, be directed to supply the said battalions with stockings, and that the Delegates for the colony of *New-Jersey* transmit to Lord *Sterling* six dozen printed copies of the articles of war.

That the same firewood, camp equipage and barrack utensils be allowed to each of the *New-Jersey* battalions as are allowed to the battalion raised in *Pennsylvania*.

That the hundred stand of arms supplied by the colony of *New-York* for the *New-Jersey* battalions, be paid for by the Convention of *New-Jersey*; and that, in order to enable the said Convention to make such payment, as well as to furnish such of the men belonging to the said battalions

Jan. 2. battalions, as are yet unprovided, with arms, the farther sum of *one thousand* dollars be advanced to the said Convention; and that the price of the arms be deducted out of the wages of the privates belonging to the said battalions.

That Lord *Sterling* be directed to seize and secure all the ammunition and warlike stores belonging to the enemy, which now are or hereafter may be imported into the colony of *New-Jersey*, and keep them till he shall receive the orders of Congress respecting them: And further that he do, from time to time, give aid and protection to all the friends of *America*, who may be employed in importing into the said colony ammunition, or other commodities not prohibited by the association and resolves of this Congress.

Whereas it has been represented to this Congress, that divers honest and well meaning, but ill informed, people in these Colonies have, by the art and address of ministerial agents, been deceived and drawn into erroneous opinions respecting the *American* cause, and the probable issue of the present contest,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the different Committees, and other friends to *American* liberty, in the said Colonies, to treat all such persons with kindness and attention; to consider them as the inhabitants of a country determined to be free, and to view their errors as proceeding rather from want of information than want of virtue or public spirit; to explain to them the
origin,

origin, nature and extent of the present contro-^{Jan. 2.}
versy; to acquaint them with the fate of the
numerous petitions presented to his majesty, as
well by Assemblies as Congresses, for reconcili-
ation and redress of grievances; and that the
last from this Congress, humbly requesting the
single favour of being heard, like all the others,
has proved unsuccessful; to unfold to them the
various arts of administration to ensnare and en-
slave us, and the manner in which we have been
cruelly driven to defend, by arms, those very
rights, liberties and estates, which we and our
forefathers had so long enjoyed unmolested in
the reigns of his present majesty's predecessors.
And it is hereby recommended to all Conven-
tions and Assemblies in these Colonies liberally
to distribute among the people the proceedings
of this and the former Congress, the late speeches
of the great patriots in both houses of parlia-
ment relative to *American* grievances, and such
other pamphlets and papers as tend to elucidate
the merits of the *American* cause, the Congress
being fully persuaded that the more our right
to the enjoyment of our ancient liberty and pri-
vileges is examined, the more just and necessary
our present opposition to ministerial tyranny
will appear.

And with respect to all such unworthy *Ameri-*
cans as, regardless of their duty to their Creator,
their country and their posterity, have taken
part with our oppressors, and, influenced with
the hope and possession of ignominious rewards,
strive to recommend themselves to the bounty
of administration, by misrepresenting and tra-
ducing


Jan. 2. ducing the conduct and principles of the friends of *American* liberty, and opposing every measure formed for its preservation and security,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the different Assemblies, Conventions and Committees or Councils of Safety in the United Colonies, by the most speedy and effectual measures to frustrate the mischievous machinations, and restrain the wicked practices of these men: And it is the opinion of this Congress, that they ought to be disarmed, and the more dangerous among them either kept in safe custody, or bound with sufficient sureties to their good behaviour.

And in order that the said Assemblies, Conventions, Committees or Councils of Safety may be enabled with greater ease and facility to carry this resolution into execution,

Resolved, That they be authorized to call to their aid whatever Continental troops, stationed in or near their respective Colonies, may be conveniently spared from their more immediate duty; and the commanding officers of such troops are hereby directed to afford the said Assemblies, Conventions, Committees or Councils of Safety all such assistance in executing this resolution, as they may require, and which, consistent with the good of the service, may be supplied.

Resolved, That all detachments of Continental troops, which may be ordered on the business in the foregoing resolution mentioned, be, while

so employed, under the direction and controul of the Assemblies, Conventions, Committees or Councils of Safety aforesaid. 1776.  Jan. 2.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all the United Colonies to aid each other (on request from their respective Assemblies, Conventions, Committees or Councils of Safety and County Committees) on every emergency, and to cultivate, cherish and increase the present happy and necessary union by a continual interchange of mutual good offices.

And whereas the execrable barbarity, with which this unhappy war has been conducted on the part of our enemies, such as burning our defenceless towns and villages, exposing their inhabitants, without regard to sex or age, to all the miseries, which loss of property, the rigour of the season and inhuman devastation can inflict, exciting domestic insurrections and murders, bribing savages to desolate our frontiers, and casting such of us, as the fortune of war has put in their power, into goals, there to languish in irons and in want, compelling the inhabitants of *Boston*, in violation of the treaty, to remain confined within the town, exposed to the insolence of the soldiery and other enormities, at the mention of which decency and humanity will ever blush, may justly provoke the inhabitants of these Colonies to retaliate,

Resolved, That it be recommended to them, to continue mindful that humanity ought to distinguish the brave, that cruelty should find

1776. no admission among a free people, and to take
 { care that no page in the annals of *America* be
Jan. 2. stained by a recital of any action which justice
 or christianity may condemn, and to rest assured
 that whenever retaliation may be necessary, or
 tend to their security, this Congress will under-
 take the disagreeable task.

Resolved, That the Assemblies, Conventions,
 or Committees or Councils of Safety be requested
 forthwith, to transmit to this Congress, copies
 of all the petitions, memorials and remonstrances,
 which have been by the respective Colonies
 presented to the throne or either house of
 parliament, since the year 1762, and that they
 also inform the Congress, whether any or what
 answers were given to them.

Resolved, That Mr. *Bartlett* be appointed one
 of the Committee of Claims, in the room of
 Mr. *Langdon*, and Mr. *S. Adams*, in the room of
 Mr. *Cushing*, who have leave of absence.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *January 3, 1776.*

A letter from general *Washington*, dated the
 25th of *December*, with sundry papers enclosed,
 was read.

The Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*
 having recommended sundry gentlemen to be
 field-officers of the four battalions ordered to be
 raised in said colony, the Congress proceeded
 to

to the election of colonels, and the ballots being taken and examined, the following gentlemen were chosen,

1776.

Jan. 3.

Arthur St Clair, Esq;

John Shee, Esq;

Anthony Wayne, Esq;

Robert Magaw, Esq;

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due to captain *Edward Mott*, for expences, &c. in conducting the prisoners taken at *St. Johns*, from *Kingston*, in the colony of *New-York*, to *Lancaster*, in *Pennsylvania*, a ballance of 367.7 dollars.

To *Robert Erwin*, waggon-master, for carriage of cloathing and medicines to *Dobb's ferry* and to *Cambridge*, 222.6 dollars.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid.

The Committee on the state of *New-York* brought in a farther report, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows,

Whereas a majority of the inhabitants of *Queens* county, in the colony of *New-York*, being incapable of resolving to live and die free-men, and being more disposed to quit their liberties, than part with the little proportion of their property necessary to defend them, have deserted the *American* cause by refusing to send Deputies as usual to the Convention of that colony, and avowing by a public declaration an unmanly design of remaining inactive spectators

1776. of the present contest, vainly flattering themselves perhaps, that should Providence declare
 Jan. 3. for our enemies, they may purchase their money and favour at an easy rate; and on the other hand, if the war should terminate in favour of *America*, that then they may enjoy, without expence of blood or treasure, all the blessings resulting from that liberty which they, in the day of trial, had abandoned, and in defence of which many of their more virtuous neighbours and countrymen had nobly died: and although the want of public spirit observable in these men rather excites pity than alarm, there being little danger to apprehend either from their prowess or example, yet it being reasonable, that those, who refuse to defend their country, should be excluded from its protection, and prevented from doing it injury,

Resolved, That all such persons in *Queens* county aforesaid, as voted against sending Deputies to the present Convention of *New-York*, and named in a list of delinquents in *Queens* county, published by the Convention of *New-York*, be put out of the protection of the United Colonies, and that all trade and intercourse with them cease; that none of the inhabitants of that county be permitted to travel or abide in any part of these United Colonies, out of their said county, without a certificate from the Convention or Committee of Safety of the colony of *New-York*, setting forth, that such inhabitant is a friend to the *American* cause, and not of the number of those, who voted against sending Deputies to the said Convention; and that such of the said inhabitants, as shall be found, out
 of

of the said county without such certificate, be apprehended and imprisoned three months.

1776.

Jan. 3.

Resolved, That no attorney or lawyer ought to commence, prosecute or defend any action of law of any kind for any of the said inhabitants of *Queens* county, who voted against sending Deputies to the Convention as aforesaid ; and such attorney or lawyer, as shall contravene this resolution, are enemies to the *America* cause, and ought to be treated accordingly.

Resolved, That the Convention or Committee of Safety of the colony of *New-York* be requested to continue publishing for a month, in all their Gazettes or news-papers, the names of all such of the inhabitants of *Queens* county, as voted against sending Deputies ; and to give certificates, in the manner before recommended, to such other of the said inhabitants, as are friends to *American* liberty.

And it is recommended to all Conventions, Committees of Safety, and others, to be diligent in executing the above resolutions.

Resolved, That colonel *Nathaniel Heard*, of *Woodbridge*, in the colony of *New-Jersey*, taking with him five or six hundred minute-men, under discreet officers, do march to the western part of *Queens* county, and that colonel *Waterbury*, of *Stanford*, in the colony of *Connecticut*, with the like number of minute-men, march to the eastern side of said county ; that they confer together, and endeavour to enter the said county
on

1776. on one day; that they proceed to disarm every
 { person in the said county, who voted against
 Jan. 3. sending Deputies to the said Convention, and
 cause them to deliver up their arms and ammu-
 nition on oath, and that they take and confine,
 in safe custody, till further orders, all such as re-
 fuse compliance.

That they apprehend and secure, till further
 orders, the persons named as principal men
 among the disaffected in the said county, in a
 summons for their appearance before the Con-
 vention of *New-York*, issued the 12th of *Decem-*
ber last, viz.

Of *Jamaica township*,
 Capt. Benjamin Whitehead,
 Charles Arden,
 Joseph French, Esq;
 Johannes Polhemus.

Newtown,
 Nathaniel Moor,
 John Moor, sen.
 Samuel Hallet,
 John Moor, jun.
 William Weyman,
 John Shoals,
 Jeromus Rapalje.

Flushing,
 John Willet.

Hamstead,
 Justice Gilbert Van Wyck,

Hamstead,
 Daniel Kissam, Esq; of
 Cowneck,
 Capt. Jacob Mott,
 Thomas Cornhill, of Rock-
 away,
 Gabriel G. Ludlow,
 Richard Hewlet,
 Capt. Charles Hicks,
 Doct. Samuel Martin,
 Justice Samuel Clowes.

Oysterbay,
 Justice Thomas Smith, of
 Hog-Island,
 Justice John Hewlet,
 Capt. George Weeks,
 Doct. David Brooks,
 Justice John Townsend.

and all such other persons who shall be found in
 arms, or who shall oppose the carrying the above
 resolutions into effect, as the said colonel Heard
 or

or colonel *Waterbury* may think prudent to detain. 1776.

Jan. 3.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the said colonel *Heard* and colonel *Waterbury*, to execute the business, entrusted to them by the foregoing resolutions, with all possible dispatch, secrecy, order and humanity.

Resolved, That the sum of 500 dollars be forthwith transmitted, with certified copies of these resolutions, to each of them the said colonel *Heard* and colonel *Waterbury*, and that they on their return report to this Congress a true state of their expenditure and proceedings.

A letter from the Committee of *Frederic*, in *Maryland*, brought by the officer who had the charge of bringing down *Connolly* and his associates, was laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* to carry into execution the resolution of Congress for confining said *Connolly* and his associates in the goal of *Philadelphia*, and that they take their examination.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *January* 4, 1776.

Resolved, That an additional battalion be raised in the county of *Cumberland*, in the colony of *Pennsylvania*, to consist of the same number of men

1776. men and officers, and to have the same pay and allowance as the others raised in said colony.

Jan. 4.

Resolved, That one company of each of the five batallions last ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, consist of expert rifle-men.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* to see the foregoing resolutions carried into execution.

Resolved, That in all elections of officers by Congress, where more than one are elected on the same day to commands of the same rank, they shall take rank of each other according to their election, and the entry of their names in the minutes, and their commissions shall be numbered to shew their priority.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of other field-officers of the four battalions, ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, and the ballots being taken and examined, the following gentlemen were chosen,

LIEUTENANT COLONELS,
Lambert Cadwallader, Esq;
William Allen, jun. Esq;
Francis Johnson, Esq;
Joseph Penrose, Esq;

MAJORS,
Joseph Wood, Esq;
George Nagle, Esq;
Henry Bicker, Esq;
Nicholas Hausficker, Esq;

The

The Committee of Claims report that there is due, 1776.

Jan. 4

To *James Whitehead*, for provisions for the prisoners taken on board the *Rebecca* and *Mary*, the sum of 64 dollars.

To the Committee of *New-Brunswick*, per account rendered, the sum of 214.9 dollars, to be paid to *William Livingston*, Esq; and by him forwarded to the said Committee.

To *Furman* and *Hunt*, of *Trenton*, for provisions, horse hire, &c. the sum of 68.2 dollars.

To the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, for 187,046 flints, by them purchased agreeable to the order of Congress the sum of 737 dollars.

To sundry persons, per list, for signing the Continental bills of credit, the sum of 1165.7 dollars, and that an order be given to the treasurers for the payment of the same, agreeable to the said list.

To the Committee of *Frederic-town*, *Maryland*, for expences incurred by *Connolly*, *Cameron* and *Smith*, during their confinement, the sum of 74 dollars, and that the same be paid to the Delegates of *Maryland*.

Ordered, That the said accounts be paid accordingly.

Resolved, That a commissary be appointed to provide the three companies ordered to *Northampton*, in *Virginia*, with rations while on their march, and during their stay in that country.

C

That

1776. That the appointment of said commissary be
 deferred till to-morrow.

Jan. 4.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on the state of *New-York*; whereupon

Resolved, That the same be postponed till to-morrow, and that the Delegates of *New-York* be desired to request the attendance of the gentlemen sent to Congress by the Convention of their colony.

Resolved, That major *Preston* have liberty to chuse the place of his residence consistent with former resolutions of Congress, and that the President take his parole.

The Committee appointed to consider what allowance ought to be made to officers who are prisoners, brought in their report.

Ordered, That the same be taken into consideration on *Saturday* next.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *January 5*, 1776.

There being a vacancy in the first of the *Pennsylvania* battalions, by the promotion of captain *Allen*, the Congress proceeded to the election of a person to supply said vacancy, and the ballots being taken, *Benjamin Davis*, oldest lieutenant in said battalion, was elected.

Resolved,

Resolved, That the sum of *ten thousand* dollars be struck, for the purpose of exchanging ragged and torn bills of the Continental currency; that the bills, making this sum, be of the same denominations, printed under the inspection of the same persons, and signed and numbered by the same signers, as the last emission, and that they be lodged in the treasury, to be applied to the sole purpose aforesaid. 1776. Jan. 5.

Resolved, That all Committees, and others, who have had public money put into their hands, lay upon the table an account of the expenditure of the same.

The Committee appointed to consider the letter of general *Washington*, dated the 18th of *December*, and the enclosed papers, brought in a report upon that part which relates to *James Lovell*, who has long been, and still is, detained a close prisoner in *Boston* by order of general *Howe*, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to, and is as follows,

That it appears to your Committee, that the said Mr. *Lovell* hath, for years past, been an able advocate for the liberties of *America* and mankind; that by his letter to general *Washington*, which is a part of said enclosed papers, he exhibits so striking an instance of disinterested patriotism, as strongly recommends him to the particular notice of this Continent.

Whereupon *Resolved*, That Mr. *James Lovell*, an inhabitant of *Boston*, now held a close prisoner

1776. there, by order of general *Howe*, has discovered
under the severest trials the warmest attachment
Jan. 5. to public liberty, and an inflexible fidelity to his
country; that by his late letter to general *Washington*, he has given the strongest evidence of
disinterested public affection, in refusing to listen
to terms offered for his relief, till he could be
informed by his countrymen that they were
compatible with their safety and honour.

Resolved, That it is deeply to be regretted
that a *British* general can be found degenerate
enough so ignominiously and cruelly to treat a
citizen, who is so eminently virtuous.

Resolved, That it be an instruction to general
Washington to make an offer of governor *Skene*
in exchange for the said Mr. *Lovell* and his
family.

Resolved, That general *Washington* be desired
to embrace the first opportunity, which may
offer, of giving some office to Mr. *Lovell*, equal
to his abilities, and which the public service may
require.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing resolu-
tions be transmitted to the general as speedily
as possible.

Resolved, That the President write to general
Washington, and desire him to inform Congress
what rank the aid-de-camp of the general of-
ficers should have in the army of the United
Colonies.

The

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due to *Adam Fischer*, for expences attending his conducting *Conolly* and *Cameron* from *Frederic*, in *Maryland*, to *Philadelphia*, and his charges back again for himself and the men, the sum of 156 dollars. 1776. Jan. 5.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

The Congress having conferred with the gentlemen sent by the Convention of *New-York*, resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on the state of that colony, and the same was agreed to.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That no farther fortifications be erected at *Martler's-rock*, on *Hudson's* river, and that a point of land at *Puplo-pen's-kill*, on the said river, be, without delay, effectually fortified.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Convention, or, in their recess, to the Committee of Safety, of *New-York*, to carry into execution the above resolution.

Resolved, That the Delegates of *New-Jersey* and *Connecticut* be directed to take the necessary steps for carrying into execution the resolutions of Congress passed on *Wednesday* last, respecting the inhabitants of *Queens* county.

A memorial from the inhabitants of the town of *Newport* was presented to Congress, and read.

Ordered,

1776. Ordered, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.
 Jan. 5.

Resolved, That Mr. Paine be added to the Committee on general Schuyler's letter.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, January 6, 1776.

A letter from the Committee of Lancaster, dated the 3d of January, was received, and read.

Also a letter from an officer in Lisbon, dated the 23d of October last.

Resolved, That these letters, as well as the last received from Lancaster, and those formerly received from Lisbon, be referred to the Committee of Correspondence.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the memorial from the inhabitants of Newport, and the papers accompanying it; and thereupon came to the following resolution,

Resolved, That the said memorial be referred to the consideration of the General Assembly of the colony of Rhode-Island.

The Committee to whom it was referred to consider how the share of prizes, allotted to the captors, ought to be divided between the officers and men, brought in their report, which
 being

being taken into consideration, was agreed to, 1776.
as follows,

Jan. 6.

Resolved, That the commander in chief have *one-twentieth* part of the said allotted prize-money taken by any ship or ships, armed vessel or vessels, under his orders and command.

That the captain of any single ship or armed vessel have *two-twentieth* parts for his share, but if more ships or armed vessels be in company when a prize is taken, then the *two-twentieth* parts to be divided amongst all the said captains.

That the captains of marines, lieutenants of the ships or armed vessels, and masters thereof, share together, and have *three-twentieth* parts divided among them, equally of all prizes taken when they are in company.

That the lieutenants of marines, surgeons, chaplains, purfers, boatswains, gunners, carpenters, the masters mates and the secretary of the fleet share together, and have *two-twentieth* parts and one half of a *twentieth* part divided among them, equally of all prizes taken when they are in company.

That the following petty warrant and petty officers (*viz.* allowing for each ship six midshipmen, for each brig four midshipmen, and each sloop two midshipmen, one captain's clerk, one surgeon's mate, one steward, one sailmaker, one cooper, one armorer, two boatswain's mates, one cock, one cockswain, two sergeants of marines, for

1776. for each ship, and one serjeant for each brig
 and sloop) have *three-twentieth* parts divided
 Jan. 6. among them equally, and when a prize is taken
 by any ship or vessel on board or in company
 of which the commander in chief is, then the
 commander in chief's cook or cockswain to be
 added to this allotment, and have their shares
 with these last-mentioned.

That the remaining *eight-twentieth* parts, and
 one half of the *twentieth* part, be divided among
 the rest of the ship or ships companies, as it may
 happen, share and share alike.

That no officer or man have any share but
 such as are actually on board their several vessels
 when any prize or prizes are taken, excepting
 only such as may have been ordered on board
 any other prizes before taken or sent away by
 his or their commanding officers.

The Committee on general *Schuyler's* let-
 ters, &c. brought in a farther report, which was
 read.

Resolved, That the consideration thereof be
 postponed to *Monday* next.

A letter from general *Schuyler*, dated the 30th
 of *December*, enclosing copies of letters from
 general *Montgomery* and general *Wooster*, being
 received, was read.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, at ten o'clock.

MONDAY,

MONDAY, January 8, 1776.

1776
Jan. 8.

A letter from general *Schuyler*, dated the 26th of *December*, enclosing a copy of a letter from general *Montgomery*, dated *December* 5th, and a list of the ordinance sent to *Cambridge*, also a letter from *Baltimore*, enclosing an affidavit of captain *Horn*, being received, were read.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the Committee on general *Schuyler's* letters, thereupon came to the following resolutions,

Resolved, That shipwrights be immediately sent from *New-York* and *Philadelphia* to general *Schuyler*, or the commander in chief of the forces at *Ticonderoga*, to be employed by him in constructing a number of batteaus, not exceeding one hundred, for transporting troops with their baggage from that place into *Canada*, whenever it may be found necessary.

That a sufficient number of suitable men be engaged for rowing said batteaus; and that a large quantity of provisions and stores be sent this winter to fort *George*.

That general *Schuyler* be desired to have the river *St. Lawrence*, above and below *Quebec*, well explored, and to determine upon proper places for opposing by armed boats, or otherwise, any attempts of the enemy to penetrate that country by the river; and that he give order for constructing speedily as many such boats as he shall judge necessary.

D

That

1776. That two shipwrights be immediately sent from *Philadelphia* to be employed under the direction of the Committee of Inspection at *Albany*, in constructing scows for facilitating the passage over *Hudson's* river.

Jan. 8.

Resolved, That the provisions heretofore made for an hospital in the northern army when it was more numerous than it is now, is sufficient.

Resolved, That the Convention of *New-York* be desired to send three thousand bushels of salt, besides what general *Schuyler* hath already ordered to be brought to *Ticonderoga*.

Resolved, That the governor of *Connecticut*, the General Assemblies of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire* and the Convention of *New-York*, be written to forthwith, by the Delegates of the said colonies respectively, to furnish general *Schuyler* with the account of money paid to any persons in the army under his command, specifying the names of those to whom the money was paid by their order.

Resolved, That the contract made by general *Schuyler* to allow one twelfth part of a dollar *per* day, for billeting money to every one of the men, who re-inlist in the northern army, until they can march to the place, where provisions may be delivered to them, be made good.

Resolved, That the officers of the northern army be accountable for such public stores issued to them, as may be lost through carelessness by their

their respective corps, and that the value thereof be deducted out of the pay of those who have embezzled or wasted the same.

1776.
 Jan. 8.

Resolved, That this Congress does approve of the raising a battalion of *Canadians* and of the appointment of *James Livingston*, Esq; colonel thereof.

Resolved, That nine battalions, including that of *Canadians* under colonel *Livingston*, be kept up and maintained the present year for the defence of *Canada*,

Resolved, That the first *Pennsylvania* battalion under colonel *Bull*, and the second *New-Jersey* battalion under colonel *Maxwell*, be ordered to march immediately to *Albany*, and there put themselves under the command of general *Schuyler*, and that the orders given for the march of three companies of colonel *Bull's* battalion to *Accamack* and *Northampton* be countermanded.

And to make up the rest of the battalions voted for the defence of *Canada*, that one battalion be raised in *New-Hampshire*, one in *Connecticut* and one in *New-York*; that two battalions be formed out of the troops now in *Canada*, and that general *Montgomery* be desired to recommend proper persons for officers in said battalions; and that one of the five battalions lately ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, be destined for *Canada*.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to devise ways and means for furnishing the

1776. the battalions destined for *Canada*, with provisions, and for expediting their march.

Jan. 8.

The members chosen, Mr. *Floyd*, Mr. *Deane* and Mr. *McKean*.

Resolved, That the farther consideration of the report be deferred till to-morrow.

Resolved, That the Convention or Committee of Safety of *Maryland* be requested to order three companies of the minute-men in the service of that colony to march immediately from thence to the counties of *Accamack* and *Northampton*, in *Virginia*, instead of the forces that were directed to go thither from *Pennsylvania*, and to lay before Congress the accounts of their subsistence and pay, which shall be paid out of the Continental treasury.


Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *January 9*, 1776.

A letter from Mr. *M. Tilghman*, with sundry papers enclosed, also some dispatches from governor *Franklin*, and a letter from *C. Skinner*, which were intercepted, were laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That a letter be written to Mr. *Tilghman*, informing him that the *Hornet* and *Wasp* are under orders to sail to the capes of *Delaware*, and that such vessels, as are ready to sail, may take the benefit of that convoy.

That

That the Committee for fitting out armed vessels be directed to give orders to the captains of the *Hornet* and *Wasp* to take under their convoy such vessels as are ready to sail. 1776.  Jan. 9.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Michael Conolly*, for expences in conducting captain *John Livingston* and lieutenant *Anstruther* from *Kingston* to *Lancaster*, the sum of 250 dollars.

To *Richard Butler*, for necessaries furnished to five *Indians*, the sum of 49. 3 dollars.

To *Joseph Cowpertwait*, the sum of 419. 6 dollars, for expences in conducting cash to *Cambridge*.

Ordered, That the above be paid.

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to enquire into the conduct of the officers who are prisoners, the manner in which they are at present subsisted, and report thereon.

The members chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *Dyer*, and Mr. *Floyd*.

Ordered, That a certified copy of the intercepted letter of Mr. *Cortland Skinner* be sent to the Committee of Safety for *New-Jersey*.

That orders be sent to lord *Sterling* to take with him a sufficient force, and immediately apprehend and keep in safe custody the said *Cortland Skinner*, of *Amboy*, till further orders from this Congress.

That

1776. That he carry said *Cortland Skinner* before
 the Committee of Safety of the colony of *New-*
Jan. 9. Jersey for examination.

That the said Committee be desired to transmit his examination to Congress.

Resolved, That the militia raised in the counties of *Orange* and *Ulster*, in the colony of *New-York*, by order of the Congress, for the support of the fort lately erected on *Hudson's* river, be discharged, except those stationed in the fort, who shall also be discharged whenever other troops arrive there to supply their places; and that it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of said colony to see that this resolve be carried into execution.

Resolved, That 500,000 dollars be sent to the pay-master general for the use of the army in the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

That the Delegates of *Pennsylvania* be directed to count and forward the same with all convenient speed under a guard of an officer and two men.

The Congress resuming the consideration of the report of the Committee on general *Schuyler's* letters, &c. thereupon came to the following resolutions,

Resolved, That colonel *V. Schaick*, lieutenant colonel *Yates*, and major *Gansevoort* be continued in the service of the United Colonies, and that they take the command of the battalion to be levied in the colony of *New-York*.

That

That captain *Lamb* be appointed commander of the artillery in the northern department with the rank of major, and that he be allowed fifty dollars *per* month from the first day of the present month, as a reward for his activity and spirited conduct in the last campaign. 1776. *Jan. 9.*

That no postage be paid for any letters to or from private soldiers, while engaged in actual service in the defence of the United Colonies; and that such letters be franked by some person authorized for that purpose, by the commanding officer of the department.

That a letter be written to general *Schuyler* by the President, informing him, that it is the opinion of Congress, he should proceed to have the conduct of lieutenant *Halfey* enquired into by a court martial, giving him previous notice to appear in his own defence, and that such sentence should be passed on him, as such court martial shall think just, and if the said lieutenant *Halfey* shall decline to submit his conduct to such examination and sentence, that then all arrears of pay due to him be stopped; to enable him to give discharges to such officers as have quitted the service; to assure him that we have great confidence in his attention to the public interest, and rely that he will give to the proper officers in his department such orders, as will procure indemnification to the public for any embezzlement or waste of its stores, or monies; to empower him to remit to such of the troops raised in the colony of *New-York*, as may re-enlist, any right we may have to stop wages for under
cloaths

1776. cloaths delivered to them ; to desire he will communicate to Mr. *Price* the sense this Congress
 Jan. 9. have of his friendly offices to general *Montgomery*, in favour of the *American* cause, to return him our thanks for the same, and assure him immediate measures shall be taken for replacing the monies he has advanced ; to notify to colonel *Easton* our approbation of his late services, and that we shall retain in our minds a just sense of them.

That general *Schuyler* be directed to appoint Mr. *John M'Pherson* a major in one of the battalions ordered to be raised out of the troops in *Canada*.

That a conductor of artillery, a superintendant of the arms, a barrackmaster and storekeeper be appointed to the northern army, and that general *Schuyler* be desired to recommend proper persons to Congress for those offices.

That the deputy paymaster general have liberty to appoint under him two assistant paymasters, who shall each receive 26 dollars and *two-thirds per month*, for their trouble and services.

That all the officers and soldiers in the northern department be paid in person by the deputy paymaster general, or the assistants to be appointed by him in consequence of the foregoing resolve.

That a communication be forthwith opened between *Skenesborough* and fort *Ann*, and that *Woodcreek* be cleared for that purpose.

That

That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of the province of *New-York* to appoint proper persons to enquire into the propriety and practicability of obstructing or lessening the depth of water in the *Narrows*, or at any other place at the entrance of *New-York*, or of any way fortifying that pass, so as to prevent the entrance of the enemy; and also to enquire whether the depth of water in *Hudson's* river, below the battery, may not easily be lessened, so as to prevent large ships passing up, and to make an estimate of the expence, and report their proceedings in the premises immediately to Congress. 1776.
Jan. 9.

That to-morrow be assigned for the choice of two brigadier generals, *viz.* one for the army in *Massachusetts-Bay*, and the other for the army in the *Northern* department.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *January* 10, 1776.

A letter from *Rachel Stelle*, with an account for the subsistence of officers, was laid before Congress.

Ordered, That the same be referred to the Committee on the conduct of officers, &c.

Resolved, That the Commissioners for *Indian* affairs in the *Northern* department be directed to pay the reverend Mr. *Wheelock* five hundred
E dollars,

1776. dollars, agreeable to a resolution of Congress
 ~~~~~  
 Jan. 10. passed the 12th day of *July* last.

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for facilitating the march of the battalions destined for *Canada*, brought in their report, which was read, and the Congress there-with concurring,

*Resolved*, That three first lieutenants, eight second lieutenants, one ensign and a quartermaster be appointed to supply the vacancies in colonel *Bull's* battalion.

That for the said battalion there be provided 688 caps, 688 pair of mittens, 688 pair of stockings, 688 pair of leggings, 688 pair of shoes, 688 haversacks, 688 slings for firelocks, 1200 shirts, 688 waistcoats, 500 pair of breeches, 300 blankets, 64 pitching axes and 9 baggage waggons.

That for colonel *Maxwell's* battalion there be provided 688 haversacks, 688 cartouch boxes, and cross belts, 688 tomhawks, 64 pitching axes and 9 baggage waggons.

That both battalions be paid up to the first day of *February* next.

That the battalions march by companies, and that the companies follow each other at the distance of one day's march; that the quartermasters and commissaries precede their respective  
 batta-

battalions a few days, in order to provide lodgings and provisions on the road. 1776.

Jan. 10.

That the colonels be allowed - 6 rations  
 Lieutenant colonels, - - - 5 ditto  
 Majors, - - - - - 4 ditto  
 Captains, - - - - - 3 ditto  
 Subaltern and staff officers, each 2 ditto  
 or money in lieu thereof.

That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* to supply colonel *Bull's* battalion with the foregoing articles, or such of them as they have not already provided them with, agreeable to former resolutions of Congress; and that all the articles furnished the men more than those allowed in lieu of bounty be deducted out of their pay.

That *Thomas Lowry* be directed to provide the articles for colonel *Maxwell's* battalion, and that all the articles furnished the men more than those allowed in lieu of bounty be deducted out of their pay.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers in favour of *Thomas Lowry*, for the sum of 35,000 dollars, for the use of the battalions raised in *New-Jersey*, he to be accountable for the same.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress proceeded to the election of two brigadier generals, and the ballots being taken and examined, *Joseph Fry*, Esq; was elected for the army in the

1776. *Massachusetts-Bay, Benedict Arnold, Esq; for the*  
*army in the Northern department.*  
 Jan. 10.

The Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, having recommended a number of persons for field-officers to the sixth battalion ordered to be raised in said colony, the Congress proceeded to the election, and the ballots being taken and examined,


*William Irwine, Esq; was elected colonel,*  
*Thomas Hartley, Esq; lieutenant colonel,*  
*James Dunlap, Esq; major.*

*Resolved,* That another battalion be raised in *New-Jersey*, on the same terms as the other two raised in the said colony.

*Resolved,* That the pay of the troops serving in and destined for *Canada* be the same as that of the army at *Cambridge*; and that this pay commence to the *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey* battalions from the time they set out on their march to *Canada*.

The Congress considering the great distance from *Colonel Heard* to *Colonel Waterbury*, the difficulty of co-operating with each other in their expedition into *Queens* county, thereupon

*Resolved,* That lord *Sterling* be desired to furnish colonel *Heard* with three companies under his command, who are to join colonel *Heard* with the minute-men by him raised, and proceed

ceed as soon as may be on the expedition into *Queens* county, for which colonel *Heard* and colonel *Waterbury* were appointed, and that colonel *Heard* be desired to send immediately an express to colonel *Waterbury* with a copy of this resolution, and inform him that his service will not be required on this occasion, 1776.  Jan. 10.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Five be appointed to take into consideration the state of these Colonies, and report as soon as possible what number of forces in their opinion will be necessary for the defence of the same.

The members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

*Resolved*, That the colony of *North Carolina* be supplied with one ton of powder by the Secret Committee.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To the Committee of the upper district of *Frederick* county, *Maryland*, the sum of 800. 1 dollars, to be paid to *Daniel Hester*; of which 571 dollars to be charged to captain *Cressap's* company, 77 dollars and one third to captain *Price's* company, and the remainder to the Continent.

To *Furman* and *Hunt*, for provisions, &c. furnished to prisoners, the sum of 178. 2 dollars.

To *William Skad*, for attendance as messenger to the 4th *December*, 1775, the sum of 52 dollars.

*Ordered*,

1776.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

Jan. 11.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *January* 11, 1776.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to endeavour to obtain a release of lieutenant *Tiley*, of brigadier *Wooster's* regiment, now confined on board the *Asia* man of war, by exchanging for him an officer of the same rank of the *British* troops in our custody.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Three be appointed to prepare instructions to the officers in the recruiting service.

The members chosen, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Dyer*, and Mr. *Harrison*.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the Committee on the bills of credit, emitted by this Congress, thereupon came to the following resolution,

Whereas it appears to this Congress that several evil disposed persons, in order to obstruct and defeat the efforts of the United Colonies, in defence of their just rights, have attempted to depreciate the bills of credit emitted by the authority of this Congress,

*Resolved*, therefore, That if any person shall hereafter be so lost to all virtue and regard for his



his country, as to refuse to receive the said bills in payment, or obstruct or discourage the currency or circulation thereof, and shall be duly convicted by the Committee of the city, county or district, or, in case of appeal from their decision, by the Assembly, Convention, Council or Committee of Safety of the colony where he shall reside, such person shall be deemed, published and treated as an enemy of his country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies.

1776.

  
 Jan. 11.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing resolve be immediately published.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, for the sum of 6000 dollars, for the use of the first *Pennsylvania* battalion, the said Committee to be accountable for the same.

A representation of the field-officers of the *Pennsylvania* battalions, setting forth the inconveniences that will arise from the battalions consisting of seven battalion-companies, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Ordered*, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *January* 12, 1776.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To

1776. To *Henry Dewson*, for provisions to captain *Rofs's* company, the sum of 27.5 dollars.

Jan. 12. From *Turbett Francis*, Esq; one of the Commissioners for *Indian* affairs in the *Northern* department, a ballance in his hands amounting to 194 dollars.

To *Volkert P. Douw*, another of the Commissioners of said department, expences attending the treaty at *Albany*, a ballance amounting to 2171.9 dollars, and that there will then remain in his hands two matraffes, about fifteen gallons of wine, some spirits, and some boards, belonging to the Colonies.

Ordered, That the sums due to *Henry Dewson*, and *Volkert P. Douw*, Esq; be paid; the latter, through the hands of *James Duane*, Esq;

The Committee appointed to enquire into the conduct of the officers, who are prisoners, and the manner in which they are, at present, subsisted, brought in their report, which was agreed to, as follows,

Resolved, That the conduct of the officers at *Trenton*, though in other respects unexceptionable, is, as to their manner of living, exceedingly extravagant, they being boarded at taverns, and the innkeepers supplying them in a luxurious manner, on the credit of the Continent.

That the Congress will, for the future, allow two dollars per week for the board and lodgings of officers, who are prisoners (for which sum they may have decent lodgings) to be repaid by

by the officers before they are released from their captivity.

1776  
Jan. 12.

That the accounts of the several innkeepers against the officers be paid by the Continent, which are also to be repaid by the said officers before their discharge.

That no tavernkeeper supply the said officers for the future on the credit of the Continent.

That the officers now at *Trenton* be directed to remove to some other place at a proper distance from the public post-road.

That the officers at *Trenton* have liberty to chuse the places of their residence, the choice being made consistent with former resolutions of Congress.

That a copy of the above resolutions, together with a copy of the resolution granting officers liberty to sell bills for their subsistence, be transmitted to the several Committees, where officers who are prisoners reside; and that the said Committees be directed to apply to the said officers for their bills to discharge the debts already incurred, and also to inform them, it is expected they will from time to time draw for their future subsistence.

*Ordered*, That *Rachel Stille's* account for subsistence of officers to the 4th of *January*, 1776, amounting to 423.6 dollars, be paid.

1776. The Congress resolved itself into a Committee  
 Jan. 12. of the whole, to take into consideration the trade  
 of the United Colonies, and after some time, the  
 President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* re-  
 ported that the Committee had taken into con-  
 sideration the matter to them referred, but not  
 having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit  
 again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will to-morrow  
 resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to  
 take into further consideration the trade of the  
 United Colonies:

A memorial from the field-officers of the first  
*Pennsylvania* battalion was presented to Congress.

*Ordered*, That the same be referred till to-  
 morrow.

The several matters to this day referred be-  
 ing postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *January* 13, 1776.

A letter from general *Washington*, dated *January*  
 the 4th, 1776; also a letter from the Committee  
 of Safety of *New-York*, dated *January* the 3d, be-  
 ing received, were read.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Five be ap-  
 pointed to take into consideration the letter from  
 the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, and to  
 confer

confer with Mr. *Romans*, and report to Congress.

1776.

Jan. 13.

The members chosen, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Dyer*, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Wytbe*, and Mr. *W. Livingston*.

The Secret Committee having made report respecting the purchase of the salt-petre lately imported,

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be directed to purchase the salt-petre on the best terms they can, and have it manufactured into gun-powder as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply colonel *Heard* with 200 pounds of gun-powder, to enable him to carry into execution the orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That *John Morgan* be promoted to the rank of first lieutenant in one of the companies of colonel *Bull's* battalion.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.

MONDAY, *January 15, 1776.*

A paragraph of a letter from *Peter Timothy*, secretary to the Provincial Convention and Committee of Safety of *South-Carolina*, dated *January 5th*, to *C. Gadson, Esq*; was read, informing that the said Convention have resolved to continue the Delegates, and have constituted any two of them to be a quorum to represent said colony.

1776. A letter from general *Washington*, dated the 31st  
 of *December*, with fundry papers enclosed, among  
 Jan. 15. which a draught of captain *Matthews* on the  
 treasury of *Virginia*, for £100. lawful money ad-  
 vanced him by the general; also two letters from  
 lord *Sterling*, dated *January* 8th and 11th, and a  
 letter from governor *Trumbull*, with three papers  
 enclosed, being received, were read.

*Resolved*, That the letter from general *Wash-*  
*ington* be referred to a Committee of Three.

The members chosen, Mr. *Wytke*, Mr. *Adams*  
 and Mr. *Wilson*.

That the letters from lord *Sterling* be referred  
 to a Committee of Five.

The members chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston*,  
 Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Floyd*, Mr. *Ward*, and  
 Mr. *Alexander*.

That the letter from governor *Trumbull*, with  
 the enclosed papers, be referred to the Committee  
 appointed to confer with Mr. *Romans*.

A letter from the Committee of Safety of  
*New-York*, dated *January* 11th, 1776, was read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee  
 on the state of the Colonies.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Five be ap-  
 pointed to make an estimate of the number of  
 cannon, that may be wanted for the defence of  
 the

the United Colonies, and to devise ways and means for procuring them, and that it be an instruction to said Committee to enquire what sized cannon can be cast in these Colonies. 1776. Jan. 15.

The members chosen, Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Rogers*, Mr. *Allen* and Mr. *Paine*.

*Resolved*, That no bought indented servants be employed on board the fleet, or in the army of the United Colonies, without the consent of their masters.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Jacob Hiltzbeimer*, for expresses, the sum of 356.1 dollars.

To *Jonathan Trumbull*, jun. for his expences to *Philadelphia*, and returning to *New-York* with money, the sum of 99.7 dollars.

To *Thomas Apt*, for boarding several prisoners, 109.6 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* to enquire into the characters of the recruits or privates taken on board the *Rebecca* and *Frances* transport, and to dismiss such of them as they judge may with safety to the Colonies be discharged.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of the trade of the United Colonies; and, after some

1776. some time, the President resumed the chair, and  
 { Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had  
*Jan.* 15. taken into their farther consideration the matter  
 to them referred, but that not having come to  
 a conclusion, they desired him to move for leave  
 to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Friday*  
 next, resolve itself into a Committee of the  
 whole, to take into farther consideration the  
 trade of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That captain *Matthew's* draft on the  
 treasury of *Virginia* be delivered to the Delegates  
 of that colony; and that they be desired to re-  
 ceive the money, and pay the same to the Con-  
 tinental treasurers.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *January* 16, 1776.

The colony of *Connecticut* having appointed  
 new Delegates, the same attending, produced  
 the credentials of their appointment, which were  
 read, as follows,

“ *At a general Assembly of the governor and company  
 of the English colony of Connecticut, in New-  
 England, in America, holden at New-Haven,  
 in said colony, on the second Thursday of October,  
 Anno Domini 1775.*

“ *Resolved*, by this Assembly, That *Roger  
 Sherman, Oliver Wolcott, Samuel Huntington, Titus  
 Hosmer, and William Williams, Esqrs.* be, and they  
 are



are hereby appointed Delegates to represent this colony at the General Congress of the United Colonies in *America* for the year ensuing, and until new be chosen, *that is to say*, the said *Roger Sherman*, *Oliver Wolcott*, and *Samuel Huntington*, Esqrs. do attend said Congress, and on the failure of either of the said gentlemen, by sickness, or otherwise, then the said *Titus Hosmer*, or *William Williams*, Esqrs. are to supply the place or places of any or either of the said three gentlemen first named, in such manner, that Three of said Delegates, and Three only, do attend said Congress at any one time; and the said three Delegates, or any or either of them, who shall be present in said Congress, are hereby fully authorized and impowered to represent this colony in said Congress, to consult, advise and resolve upon measures necessary to be taken and pursued for the defence, security and preservation of the rights and liberties of the said United Colonies, and for their common safety; and of such their proceedings and resolves they do transmit authentic copies, from time to time, to the General Assembly of this colony. That the said Delegates now appointed do repair to, and take their seats in, said Congress by the first day of *January* next, in case said Congress shall be then sitting, or as soon after as said Congress shall be convened; and that the said gentlemen who are now attending said Congress in behalf of this colony, do continue in their said office until the gentlemen now chosen, and directed to attend in manner aforesaid, shall arrive at said Congress.

1776.

Jan. 16.

“*A true copy of record, examined by*

GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary.*”

A let<sup>r</sup>

1776. A letter from Mr. *Lewis*, dated *January* 8th,  
was read, recommending a stranger to the notice  
Jan. 16. of Congress.

*Ordered*, That the same be referred to the Committee on the Qualifications of persons applying for offices.

*Resolved*, That a member, in the room of Mr. *Dyer*, be added to the Committee appointed to draw up instructions to the officers employed in the recruiting service.

*Resolved*, That the several petitions of gentlemen, praying to be appointed officers in the *Pennsylvania* battalions, be referred to the Committee on Qualifications.

Application being made in behalf of Mr. *Jugé* and the owner of a vessel lately arrived in *Delaware*, for leave to export provisions to the amount of the cargoes by them imported,


*Resolved*, That this be referred to the Secret Committee.

*Resolved*, That two members be added to the Secret Committee.

The members chosen, Mr. *Hewes* and Mr. *Alexander*.

The Committee on the state of the Colonies brought in a report, which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*,

*Resolved*, That another battalion be raised in the colony of *North-Carolina*, in order to defeat any attempt which may be made in opposition to the measures recommended by the Continental Congress. 1776.  Jan. 16.

*Resolved*, That the farther consideration of the report be referred till to-morrow.

The Committee having desired leave to sit again, the same was granted.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for taking into consideration, in a Committee of the whole, the propriety of opening the ports after the first of *March* next.

The Delegates of *South-Carolina* having informed the Congress, that their colony, being in want of seamen, had given orders to offer high wages to such as would engage in their service, desired the advice and opinion of Congress on this matter.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of Five.

The members chosen, Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *Huntington*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Floyd*.

*Resolved*, That the Naval Committee be empowered to purchase a small vessel for a tender.

The Committee appointed to procure powder from *Providence*, brought in a report, with an  
G account

1776. account of a cargo provided for that purpose by  
*Willing and Morris*, amounting to 3233.2 dol-  
 Jan. 16. lars; whereupon

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be authorised to give such orders, to the captain of the vessel, as they may think proper.

That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of *Willing and Morris*, for the said sum of 3233.2 dollars.

The Committee on general *Washington's* letters brought in a report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress thereupon came to the following resolutions,

*Resolved*, That the paymaster general of the army at *Cambridge* be empowered to draw bills upon the President of the Congress, or, in their recess, upon the Committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, for any sums of money which may be deposited in his hands not exceeding, in any one month, the monthly expence of the army, and that such bills countersigned by the general or commander in chief of the said army be accepted and paid.

That the free *Negroes* who have served faithfully in the army at *Cambridge* may be re-inlisted therein, but no other.

That, if general *Washington* think proper, colonel *R. Gridley* be continued chief engineer in the army at *Cambridge*.

That

That the pay of the assistant engineers in the army at *Cambridge* be 26 dollars and *two-thirds* per month. 1776.  
Jan. 16.

The Committee having desired leave to sit again, the same was granted.

*Resolved*, That four new members be added to the Committee on the Qualifications, &c. in the room of those absent.

The members chosen,  
Mr. *Wolcott*, for *Connecticut*, in the room of Mr. *Dyer*.  
Mr. *Duane*, for *New-York*, in the room of Mr. *Jay*.  
Mr. *McKean*, for the *Lower Counties* on *Delaware*, in the room of Mr. *Rodney*. And  
Mr. *Rogers*, for *Maryland*.

*Resolved*, That *Thursday* next be assigned for taking into consideration the report of the Committee on *Indian* affairs.

*Resolved*, That a list of the Committees who have not reported be prepared and laid on the table.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *January* 17, 1776.

A petition from doctor *Benjamin Church* was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a Committee of Three.

1776.

The members chosen, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Paca*  
and Mr. *Hooper*.

*Jan. 17.*

A petition from *Ibbetson Hamar*, a prisoner at *Trenton*, was presented to Congress and read, praying for leave to reside at Mr. *Stainforth's*, near *Prince-Town*.

*Resolved*, That the same be granted.

A memorial from the captains and subalterns of the first *Pennsylvania* battalion was presented and read, complaining of the conduct of their colonel,

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the Committee of Qualifications, and that they be directed to hear the parties, and report to Congress.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the ports after the first of *March* next, and after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and had come to a resolution, which he read in his place, and delivered in.

The report being again read,

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Five be appointed, to consider under what regulations and restrictions

restrictions the trade of the United Colonies ought to be carried on after the first of *March* next.

1776.  
~  
Jan. 17.

The members chosen, *Mr. Harrison, Mr. Morris, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Adams and Mr. Sherman.*

*Resolved,* That a member be added to the Committee appointed to confer with *Mr. Romans.*

The member chosen, *Mr. Wolcott.*

The Committee appointed to prepare instructions for the officers in the recruiting service brought in their report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress thereupon came to the following resolutions,

*Resolved,* That the colonels of the several battalions ordered to be raised do immediately order their officers, on recruiting service, to such parts where they are best known, and have the greatest probability of success.

That the recruiting officers ought to be careful to enlist none but healthy, sound and able bodied men, and not under sixteen years of age.

That the colonels of the several battalions aforesaid appoint some place or places of rendezvous, to which the recruits may be sent, and where the battalions may be quartered.

That the greatest attention ought to be paid  
to

1776. to the behaviour of the troops in quarters, that  
they may give no reasonable cause of complaint.

Jan. 17.

That the quarters of the troops be duly discharged once every week.

That an allowance of *one* dollar and a *third* of a dollar *per* man be made to the recruiting officers, in lieu of their expences in recruiting, exclusive of the subsistence-money allowed them. And that in case any man be enlisted contrary to the foregoing regulations, the pay they may have received, and the subsistence-money that may be paid for them, shall be stopped from the pay of such recruiting officers.

That the colonels of the several battalions to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, be supplied with money for the recruiting service by the Committee of Safety of said colony, and disburse the same to the several recruiting officers; the colonels and other officers to be accountable for what they shall receive, and all arrears, they may fall into, to be stopped from their pay.

*Resolved*, That the sum of *one* dollar and *one-third* of a dollar *per* man be allowed to the officers of the first *Pennsylvania* battalion for each man by them enlisted, who shall have passed muster.

*Resolved*, That the treasurers be empowered to advance to Mr. *Regonville* a sum not exceeding 400 dollars, taking his draught or bill on his agent in *Canada* for the same.

A let-



A letter from general *Schuyler*, dated *January* 1776. the 13th, enclosing copies of letters from general *Wooster*, colonel *Arnold*, and others, were laid Jan. 17. before Congress, and read, containing an account of an unsuccessful attempt made to gain possession of *Quebec* by storm, on the 31st of *December*, and of the death of general *Montgomery*.

The Committee to whom the matter of *South-Carolina*, respecting the engaging of seamen, was referred, brought in their report, which was read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *January* 18, 1776.

The Committee to whom the petition of doctor *Benjamin Church* was referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That governor *Trumbull* be desired to give order for the removal of doctor *Church* to some more comfortable place of confinement, than that where he now is, if such can be found in that colony; and that for the advancement of his health, the said doctor *Church* be permitted to ride out at proper seasons under a trusty guard, who will be careful to prevent his carrying on any correspondence, or doing any act prejudicial to the safety and welfare of the United Colonies.

A letter from the Committee of *Fredericktown*,

1776. *town, Maryland*, enclosing fundry intercepted letters, found upon doctor *Smith*, one of *Conolly's*  
 Jan. 18. associates, being brought by the guard who had the charge of bringing down said *Smith*, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety for the colony of *Pennsylvania*, to take the examination of said doctor *Smith*, and then commit him to safe and close confinement.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Five be appointed to take into consideration the letter from general *Schuyler*, of the 13th of *January*, with the enclosures, and report thereon to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Skerman*, Mr. *Ward*, and Mr. *S. Adams*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *January 19, 1776.*

*Resolved*, That five members be elected for the Committee of Claims in the room of those who are absent.

The members chosen,  
 Mr. *Wolcott*, for *Connecticut*, in the room of Mr. *Deane*.  
 Mr. *Floyd*, for *New-York*, in the room of Mr. *Lewis*.  
 Mr. *McKean*, for the *Lower Counties on Delaware*, in the room of Mr. *Rodney*.

Mr.

Mr. *Rogers*, for *Maryland*, in the room of 1776.  
Mr. *Johnson*.  
Mr. *E. Rutledge*, for *South-Carolina*, in the room Jan. 19.  
of Mr. *Gadsden*.

The Committee to whom the letters from *Lancaster* were referred, brought in an answer, which was read, and approved.

*Ordered*, That the same be transcribed and forwarded.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the Committee on the matter of *South-Carolina*, respecting seamen; whereupon

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to captain *Cochran*, who is arrived here for the purpose of recruiting seamen, to pursue the following plan in the inlisting service, in which he is employed by the colony of *South-Carolina*.

That he offer to each able bodied seamen the wages of *eight* dollars *per* month, and that he pay to them *nine* dollars bounty, and, upon their arrival in *South-Carolina*, the further bounty of *five* dollars.

That captain *Cochran* repair immediately to the camp at *Cambridge*, and take the advice and direction of general *Washington* on this affair, and proceed to inlist his seamen in such parts of the country, as will be the least prejudicial to the Continental service.

H

That

1776. That the President write to general *Washington*, acquainting him with the situation of *South-*  
*Jan. 19. Carolina*, the necessity that colony is in for sea-  
 men, and desiring that he will please to forward  
 this service.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there  
 is due,

To the Committee of *Berks* county, for provisions,  
 ammunition, &c. furnished the rifle-compa-  
 nies, £ 11 : 14 : 10, and for necessaries fur-  
 nished the prisoners from *St. Johns*, the sum  
 of £ 8 : 13 : 11, amounting in the whole to  
 £ 20 : 8 : 9, equal to 54. 5 dollars, to be paid  
 to doctor *Jonathan Potts*.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the trea-  
 surers, in favour of the Delegates of *South-Caro-*  
*lina*, for the sum of 10,000 dollars, which was  
 appropriated for *Indian* affairs in the *Southern*  
 department.

The Council of Safety for the *Three Lower*  
*Counties* on *Delaware* having recommended sundry  
 gentlemen for field-officers of the battalion or-  
 dered to be raised in that colony, the Congress  
 proceeded to an election, and the ballots being  
 taken,

*John Haslet*, Esq; was elected colonel, and  
*Gunning Bedford*, Esq; lieutenant colonel.

The

The Congress resuming the consideration of the report of the Committee on the state of the Colonies,

1776.

Jan. 19.

*Resolved*, That four battalions be raised in the colony of *New-York* for the defence of that colony, upon the same pay with those directed to be raised in the colony of *Pennsylvania*; and that they be stationed as the commanding officer of the *New-York* department shall think best, to garrison the several forts in that colony from *Crownpoint* to the southward, and to prevent depredations upon *Long-Island*, and promote the safety of the whole.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be transmitted to the Council of Safety of *New-York*; and that they be requested, with all possible expedition to transmit to Congress the names of a number of gentlemen, at least two for each command, out of whom the Congress may elect field-officers for said battalions.

The Committee on Qualifications brought in a report, which was agreed to, as follows,

That *Roger Stayner* and *George Jenkins* be appointed first lieutenants in the first *Pennsylvania* battalion.

That the two eldest ensigns be promoted to second lieutenants in said battalion, in the room of the above.

That *Robert Allison* be appointed an ensign in said battalion.

1776. That *Jacob Skallus* be appointed quarter-master  
 of said battalion.  
*Jan. 19.*

The Committee appointed to hear the complaints of the officers, and colonel *Bull's* defence, brought in their report, which, after debate, was referred till to-morrow.

The Committee to whom general *Schuyler's* letter of the 13th of *January*, with the papers and letters enclosed, was referred, brought in a report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon

*Resolved*, That the *American* army in *Canada* be reinforced with all possible dispatch, as well for the security and relief of our friends there, as for better securing the rights and liberties not only of that colony, but the other United Colonies.

That an express be sent to the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, and an application made to that of *Pennsylvania*, immediately to quicken the officers employed in levying the forces directed to be raised in those colonies, and marched to *Canada*, and do all in their power to forward the service. And that the Committee of Inspection of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* be requested forthwith to use their utmost endeavours to aid Mr. *J. Mease* in procuring of the householders therein, such blankets as may be spared from their respective families, for the use of the battalion destined for this important expedition at so severe a season, for which the  
 owners

owners shall be allowed the value of such blankets according to the estimation of the said Committee of Inspection. And that colonel *Bull* and colonel *Maxwell* do without delay march such of the companies of their battalions as are now ready, to general *Schuyler*.

1776.

Jan. 19.

That general *Washington* be requested to detach from the camp at *Cambridge* one battalion, if the service there will permit him to spare one, with orders to march with the greatest expedition possible to *Canada*.

That for the more speedy raising the battalions, ordered on the 8th of *January* to be raised in the colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Connecticut*, *New-York* and *Pennsylvania*, for the defence of *Canada*, it be recommended to the general Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety of those colonies respectively, to exert their utmost endeavours in raising the said battalions, upon the same pay and subsistence as the army at *Cambridge*, and to furnish them with provisions, ammunition, and other necessaries, for expediting their march to *Canada*. And for further encouraging the men more cheerfully to enter into the service of their country, to give a bounty of *six* dollars and *two-thirds* to every able bodied effective man, properly cloathed for the service, and having a good firelock, with a bayonet, and other accoutrements, and *four* dollars to every soldier not having the like arms and accoutrements; the arms to be supplied by the colony, and the cost to be deducted out of the soldiers pay; and also to provide a blanket and

1776. and haversack for every enlisted soldier, and  
 moreover to advance one month's pay to every  
*Jan.* 19. officer and soldier before their march, that they  
 may be able to purchase necessary cloathing.

That the first two companies, which shall be complete of every battalion, do march to that country, so soon as they shall be ready, and be followed in the same numbers, with like expedition, by the rest of the corps. And that it be recommended to the General Assemblies, Conventions and Councils or Committees of Safety of the colonies in which the battalions are directed to be raised, that they respectively attend to this business.

The Committee desired leave to sit again, which was granted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *January 20, 1776.*


*Resolved,* That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, for the sum of 15,000 dollars, for the use of the five battalions to be raised in said colony; the said Committee to be accountable.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To captain *Henry Skylock*, for his expences in bringing doctor *John Smith* from *Hagar's-Town*, and for his expences in returning home, the sum of 89. 3 dollars.

To



To *John Nelson*, for his expences in bringing the said doctor *John Smith* from the *Little Meadows* to *Hagar's-Town*, and for his trouble in attending him to this city, with allowance of expences in returning home, the sum of 75 dollars. 1776.  Jan. 20.

To *Francis Johnson*, Esq; for fundry expences incurred by guards for powder, waggons, &c. the sum of 38 dollars.

To *Thomas Dewees*, for supporting several prisoners, the sum of 43.2 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above accounts be paid.

A memorial from colonel *Bull* was presented to Congress, and read, praying for leave, on account of ill treatment he had received from many officers of his corps, to resign his commission.

The Committee on general *Schuyler's* letter; brought in a farther report, which being taken into consideration, the Congress came to the following resolutions,

*Resolved*, That general *Washington* be desired to dispatch a general officer, if he can be spared from the service at *Cambridge*, to command the army in *Canada*.

That it being necessary to procure a large quantity of specie for the operations in *Canada*, which cannot be successfully carried on without that article, it be recommended to the General Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety upon the Continent, to employ proper

1776. proper persons within their respective colonies  
 to collect all the gold and silver coin they can,  
*Jan. 20.* and inform Congress of the sum collected.

That it will not be expedient at present to send a Committee of Congress to *Canada*.

That the Committee of Secrecy be desired to dispatch one ton of gun-powder with the first companies that shall march from *Pennsylvania* to *Canada*; and that governor *Trumbull* be desired to send the like quantity of gun-powder with the first detachment of forces directed to march thither from *Connecticut*.

That the losses sustained by captain *Hazen* be ascertained by Commissioners to be appointed by the commanding officer in *Canada*, and that the Commissioners report their proceedings, with the examination of the witnesses, and their opinion thereupon, to Congress.

That the General Assemblies, Conventions or Councils or Committees of Safety of the Colonies, in which forces are directed to be raised for the service of *Canada*, be desired to raise for the same service, one company of matrosses, consisting of forty privates, in each colony, under proper officers, and where a company cannot be completed, to raise as many as they can, under subaltern officers, in proportion to their numbers.

That general *Wooster* be desired to take possession of the medicine-chest mentioned by colonel *Campbell*, to be claimed by doctor *Beaumont*,  
 and

and if it appear to him to be private property, to pay the value thereof to the owner.

1776.  
Jan. 20.

That the General Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety be desired to take the most effectual measures for recovering the arms, accoutrements, batteaus, tools and other stores of the Continent, said to have been carried off by some of the soldiers, who have returned from *Canada*.

That 12,500 dollars be advanced to each of the General Assemblies or Councils or Committees of Safety of the colonies in which forces are directed to be raised for the service of *Canada*, for the purpose of recruiting their respective regiments.

That from the necessity of the case, and to prevent delays, blank commissions be issued by the President for the field-officers, captains and subalterns, who are to command the battalions ordered to be raised for *Canada*, in *New-Hampshire* and *Conneticut*, to be filled up with the names of such gentlemen, as shall be judged most proper by the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire*, and by the Governor and Council of *Conneticut*.

That the foregoing resolution be not drawn into a precedent.

That exclusive of colonel *Livingston* and his regiment already determined on, there be one thousand *Canadians* more raised, for one year,

1776. or during the present disputes, at *six* dollars and  
*two-thirds* bounty and the usual pay, which num-  
 Jan. 20. ber shall compose four battalions, and form one  
 regiment, five companies of fifty men to each  
 battalion, one captain, one lieutenant, and one  
 ensign to each company, and four majors, one  
 lieutenant colonel and one colonel to the whole  
 regiment.

That the Committee of Safety of *Philadelphia*  
 be desired to provide and dispatch fives and drums  
 to *Canada*, for the two regiments directed to be  
 raised in that colony.

*Resolved*, That orders be drawn on the trea-  
 surers, in favour of the Delegates of *New-Hamp-*  
*shire*, for the above sum of 12,500 dollars, and  
 in favour of the Delegates of *Connecticut*, for the  
 like sum of 12,500 dollars, and in favour of the  
 Delegates of *New-York*, for the like sum of  
 12,500 dollars, for the use of the battalions to  
 be raised for *Canada*, and that the said Delegates  
 be desired to forward the said sums to their re-  
 spective colonies with all expedition; the several  
 colonies to be accountable for the same.

*Resolved*, That the President be directed to  
 send an express to general *Schuyler*, with a letter,  
 informing him of the measures the Congress  
 have taken for the defence of *Canada*, and desire-  
 ing him to forward the same to general *Wooster*.

That he likewise dispatch an express, with  
 the like information, to general *Washington*, to  
 the Governor of *Connecticut*, and the Convention  
 or

or Council of Safety of *New-Jersey, New-York* 1776.  
and *New-Hampshire.*

Jan. 20.

The Committee on Qualifications, having recommended the following persons for ensigns in the first *Pennsylvania* battalion, viz.

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Nicholas Scull,</i>  | <i>John Brue,</i>      |
| <i>Joseph Greenway,</i> | <i>Richard Rice,</i>   |
| <i>John Irvine,</i>     | <i>Major Walbroon,</i> |

the same were agreed to, and commissions ordered to be given them accordingly.

*Resolved,* That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the Delegates of *New-Jersey* with 300 pounds of powder, for the use of colonel *Maxwell's* battalion.

*Ordered,* That *Timothy Matlack* deliver to the Delegates of *New-Jersey*, or their order, a quantity of flints, for the use of said battalion, and ball or lead proportioned to 300 pounds of powder.

That the treasurers with all expedition send a trusty person with £1000 in Continental bills to *Samuel Patterson, Esq;* and receive in exchange for the same so much in silver and gold.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday.*

MONDAY, *January 22, 1776.*

Sundry letters, viz. one from general *Washington*, of the 11th of *January*, two from lord *Sterling*, of the 18th and 19th of *January*, one from general

I 2

*Schuyler,*

1776. *Schuyler*, of the 10th of *January*, and one from  
 the Committee of *Trenton*, of the 19th of *January*,  
 Jan. 22. also a petition from *John Sparling*, being received,  
 were read.

*Resolved*, That the above letters be referred  
 to a Committee of Three.

The members chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston*,  
 Mr. *Hooper* and Mr. *Adams*.

*Resolved*, That the President be empowered  
 to employ a private secretary, to be paid by the  
 United Colonies.

The Committee of Claims reported, that  
 there is due,

To *Benedict Arnold*, on account of his expences  
 in his expedition against *Crownpoint* and *Ticon-*  
*deroga*, a ballance amounting to 819 dollars,  
 to be paid to *Silas Deane*, Esq;

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of *Trenton* be  
 desired to send general *Prescot* and captain *Chace*  
 under a guard to *Philadelphia*.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Three be ap-  
 pointed, to consider a proper method of paying  
 a just tribute of gratitude to the memory of  
 general *Montgomery*.

The members chosen, Mr. *Livingston*, doctor  
*Franklin* and Mr. *Hooper*.

The

The Congress proceeded to the election of field-officers for the second *Canadian* regiment, and 1776.  
Jan. 22.  
*Hazen*, Esq; was elected colonel,  
*Edward Antil*, Esq; lieutenant colonel.

*Resolved*, That the United Colonies will indemnify colonel *Hazen* for any loss of half-pay he may sustain in consequence of his entering into their service.

*Resolved*, That the appointment of majors, captains, and subaltern and staff-officers in the second *Canadian* regiment, be left to the commander in chief in *Canada*, with the advice of the general officers in that country, and of colonel *Hazen*, lieutenant colonel *Antil*, and Mr. *Price*.

The Congress resumed the consideration of colonel *Bull's* application, for leave to resign his commission.

*Resolved*, That leave be granted him.

The Congress then proceeded to the election of a colonel for the first *Pennsylvania* battalion, in the room of colonel *Bull*, and

*John Philip de Haas* was elected.

A memorial from captain *Duncan Campbell*, a prisoner, being presented to Congress, and read,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be empowered to take his parole, and that he have leave to reside at *Lancaster*.

Appli-

1776. Application being made in behalf of lieutenant *M'Donnald*, for leave to come to *Philadelphia*, and remain there five days, in order to transact some necessary business,  
*Jan. 22.*

*Resolved*, That leave be granted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *January 23*, 1776.

A letter from general *Schuyler*, of the 14th of *January*, enclosing a letter from general *Arnold*, was read.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary draw up a narrative of the repulse our troops met with, and of the loss sustained in their unsuccessful attempt on *Quebec*, and lay the same before Congress.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Three be appointed to prepare a letter to the inhabitants of *Canada*.

The members chosen, Mr. *Livingston*, Mr. *Lynch* and Mr. *Wilson*.

*Resolved*, That the articles of war be translated into *French*, and 500 copies sent to *Canada*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Adam Ekel*, for waggonage from *Lancaster* to *Cambridge* with captain *Smith's* company of rifle-men, a ballance of 43.3 dollars.

To



- To *Deborah Siddens*, for provisions for captain *Ross's* company, the sum of 15. 3 dollars. 1776.  
To *John Jervis*, for ferriage, horse hire, &c. the sum of 12 dollars. Jan. 23.  
To the Committee of *Romboiet Precinct*, in *Duchess* county, in the colony of *New-York*, the sum of 129. 4 dollars.  
To *Robert Erwin*, for waggonage, the sum of 67 dollars.  
To *Timothy Matlack*, for cash by him paid to *Archibald Dick*, the expences of a guard over a powder waggon, 16. 4 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts be paid.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the Committee on *Indian* affairs, which, after debate, was recommitted.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the Committee of Safety of the *Three Lower Counties* on *Delaware*, for the sum of 3000 dollars, for the use of the battalion ordered to be raised in that colony; the said Committee to be accountable for the expenditure.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *January* 24, 1776.

A letter from the Committee of *Trenton*, of *January* the 23d, was read.

The Secretary laid before Congress an account of the repulse our troops met with in their attempt

1776. tempt on *Québec*, the 31st of *December*, which  
was read.  
Jan. 24.

*Ordered*, That the same be published.

*Resolved*, That such of the soldiers, ordered to *Canada*, as are married, and are desirous of having part of their pay given to their wives, be indulged; and that the captains or paymaster be directed, in future payments of such soldiers, to deduct such part of their monthly pay.

*Resolved*, That the President be directed to inform general *Schuyler*, that the return of cannon mentioned in his letter, of *December* 21st, is mislaid, and that therefore he is desired to make a return as soon as possible of all the cannon and artillery at *Crownpoint* and *Ticonderoga*, exclusive of those taken by colonel *Knox* for general *Washington*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Bankson* be appointed a first lieutenant, in the room of Mr. *Morgan*, who is in the country.

Information being given to Congress, that some soldiers in the first *Pennsylvania* battalion now under orders to march to *Canada*, are not supplied with arms:

*Resolved*, That the commanding officer of said battalion be directed to make a return of the arms of said battalion, and how many are wanting, to the President of the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*.

That

That the said Committee be desired to use their utmost influence to provide good arms for such of said battalion as may want them.

1776.

Jan. 24.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Seven be appointed, to consider the propriety of establishing a war-office, and the powers with which the said office should be vested.

The members chosen, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Ward*, Mr. *S. Adams* and Mr. *Morris*.

The Committee appointed to prepare a letter to the inhabitants of *Canada* reported a draft, which being read, and considered, was approved.

*Ordered*, That it be immediately translated and printed.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of *Carpenter Wharton*, for the sum of 1000 dollars, to enable him to supply the first *Pennsylvania* battalion with provisions on their march to *Albany*; he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Five be appointed, to prepare an address to the inhabitants of the United Colonies.

The members chosen, Mr. *Dickinson*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Duane* and Mr. *Alexander*.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of colonel *Hazen*, for the sum

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of

1776. of 533 dollars and *one-third*; he to be account-  
 able.  
 Jan. 24.

That a like order be drawn, in favour of colonel *Antil*, for the sum of 200 dollars.

That the sum of 2666 dollars and *two-thirds* in specie be advanced to colonel *Hazen*, for the use of the battalion to be by him raised in *Canada*; he to be accountable.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *January 25, 1776.*

Sundry letters, *viz.* one from the Committee of *Trenton*, dated the 23d of *January*, one from *Ibetson Hamar*, and from doctor *Richard Huddleston*, of the same date, and one from the Committee of *Lancaster*, of the 22d of *January*, were read, and referred to the Committee of Correspondence.

A letter from colonel *Maxwell*, respecting the unprepared state of his battalion, being read,

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the Committee of *Trenton*, for the sum of 4000 dollars, to purchase arms for colonel *Maxwell's* battalion; the said Committee to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the President write to the said Committee, and to Mr. *Lowry*, stimulating them to furnish colonel *Maxwell's* battalion with the  
 articles

articles necessary for their march; and that the President write to colonel *Maxwell*, and direct him to send forward to *Albany* the first company that can be got ready, and that he cause the other companies to march with like expedition, one at a time, as fast as they can be got ready.

1776.

Jan. 25.


*Resolved*, That a Committee of Three be appointed, to take the examination of brigadier-general *Prescot* and captain *Chace*, who are arrived in *Philadelphia*, and report to Congress.

The members chosen, Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *Ward* and Mr. *Sherman*.

The Committee appointed to consider of a proper method of paying a just tribute of gratitude to the memory of general *Montgomery*, brought in their report, which was agreed to, as follows,

It being not only a tribute of gratitude justly due to the memory of those, who have peculiarly distinguished themselves in the glorious cause of liberty, to perpetuate their names, by the most durable monuments erected to their honour, but also greatly conducive to inspire posterity with an emulation of their illustrious actions,

*Resolved*, That, to express the veneration of the United Colonies for their late general, *Richard Montgomery*, and the deep sense they entertain of the many signal and important services of that gallant officer, who, after a series of

1776.  successes, amidst the most discouraging difficulties, fell at length in a gallant attack upon *Quebec*, the capital of *Canada*, and for transmitting to future ages, as examples truly worthy of imitation, his patriotism, conduct, boldness of enterprize, insuperable perseverance, and contempt of danger and death, a monument be procured from *Paris*, or any other part of *France*, with an inscription sacred to his memory, and expressive of his amiable character and heroic achievements. And that the Continental treasurers be directed to advance a sum not exceeding £ 300 *sterling* to doctor *Benjamin Franklin* (who is desired to see this resolution properly executed) for defraying the expence thereof.

That doctor *Smith* be desired to prepare and deliver a funeral oration in honour of general *Montgomery*, and of those officers and soldiers, who so magnanimously fought and fell with him in maintaining the principles of *American* liberty.

*Resolved*, That the direction of the fleet fitted out by order of Congress, be left to the Naval Committee.

A letter from general *Washington*, dated the 14th of *January*, being received, was read, and referred to the Committee of Correspondence

*Resolved*, That Mr. *James Mease* be appointed a commissary to supply the battalions ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania* with the articles allowed by Congress, and that he be allowed for his trouble *one and one-fourth per cent*, in full of all charges.

charges for the money passing through his hands, and that he give security for the just and faithful expenditure for the same.

1776.

Jan. 25.

That Mr. *Lynch* and Mr. *Allen* take the security.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the Delegates of *North-Carolina*, for the sum of 10,000 dollars, for the use of the battalions ordered to be raised in that colony.

The Committee appointed to take the examination of general *Prescot* and captain *Chace*, made report of their proceedings.

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be directed to make farther enquiry into the character and conduct of general *Prescot*, and inspect the letters of general *Schuyler* and general *Montgomery* concerning him.

*Resolved*, That colonel *Roberdeau* be requested to relieve the guard from *Trenton*, who have charge of general *Prescot* and captain *Chace*, with a trusty guard from his battalion.

*Resolved*, That the fortification at *Crownpoint* be not repaired; and that the fortrefs at *Ticonderoga* be repaired and made defensible; and that general *Schuyler* be desired to make return to Congress as soon as may be of the size and number of cannon, that will be necessary to fortify that place.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY,

1776.

FRIDAY, *January 26*, 1776.

Jan. 26.

A letter from general *Lee*, dated the 22d of *January*, enclosing a letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, was received, and read.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Three be appointed, to repair to *New-York*, to consult and advise with the Council of Safety of that colony, and with general *Lee*, respecting the immediate defence of the city of *New-York*; and that general *Lee* be directed to follow the determination of the said Committee thereupon.

That it be an instruction to the said Committee, in case the city cannot be defended, that they earnestly recommend it to the inhabitants immediately to remove their most valuable effects to a place of safety.

That the said Committee be farther instructed to consult with general *Lee* and the Committee of Safety of *New-York* about the fortifications on *Hudson's* river, and about fortifying the pass at *Hellgate*.

The members chosen, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Lynch* and Mr. *Allen*.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Three be appointed, to consider what allowance ought to be made for paying the troops in *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*.

The members chosen, Mr. *Ward*, Mr. *Harrison* and Mr. *Allen*,

*Resolved*,



*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of the Commissioners for *Indian* affairs in the *Middle* department, for the sum of 1000 dollars; the said Commissioners to be accountable

1776.

Jan. 26.

A petition from sundry persons, respecting the inlisting apprentices, was presented, and read.

A letter from *Pittsburg*, dated the 15th of *January*, with enclosed papers, was read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *January* 27, 1776.

A letter from general *Washington*, dated the 19th of *January*, one from the Committee at *Trenton*, dated the 24th, one from lord *Sterling*, dated the 25th, and one from *T. Lowry*, dated the 24th, of the same month, were read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *Ward* and Mr. *S. Adams*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To colonel *C. Wynkoop*, for expences in bringing a party of prisoners from *St. Johns*, the sum of 765.7 dollars, of which 86.2 dollars ought to be charged to the officers of the said party of prisoners.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*,

1776. *Resolved*, That the Committee of Inspection  
 of *Esopus* or *Kingston* be directed to supply the  
 prisoners there with necessary cloathing, and also  
 to provide them with lodging and provisions,  
 not exceeding the rations allowed to privates in  
 the Continental army, on the most reasonable  
 terms they can.

Jan. 27.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Five be appointed, to take into consideration the report of the Commissioners for *Indian* affairs in the *Middle* department, and the state of the *Indians* in said department.

The members chosen, Mr. *Wytke*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Duane* and Mr. *Rogers*.

*Resolved*, That a commission be issued to *Cayashota*, giving him a rank of a colonel, and that a silver gorget be presented to him.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the Committee on the case of Mr. *Jugé*,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Jugé* be permitted to export the manufactures or produce of the colony of *Maryland* (horned cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry excepted) to any port or place whatsoever (except to *Great-Britain*, *Ireland*, *British* isles, the *British West-Indies*, and except for the supply of the *British* army or navy in *America*) to the amount of the canvas imported by him into the said colony; the said value to be ascertained by the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the county of *Baltimore*.

*Resolved*,

*Resolved*, nevertheless, That the indulgence in this instance ought not to be drawn into example, the same being granted to Mr. *Jugé* on account of the peculiar circumstances of his case; and that the said Mr. *Jugé* be enjoined by the afore-said Committee of *Baltimore*, to avoid, if possible, all *British* ships of war and armed cutters on his voyage. 1776.  
Jan. 27.

A memorial from *Henry Keppeler* and *John Steinmetz* was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a Committee of Three.

The members chosen, Mr. *Ward*, Mr. *Alexander* and Mr. *Wythe*.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Three be appointed, to take into consideration the matter of insisting apprentices and persons in debt.

The members chosen, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *McKean* and Mr. *Wythe*.

The Committee to whom the treaty held with the *Indians* at *Albany*, and the letter from *V. P. Douw*, Esq; were referred, brought in their report; whereupon

*Resolved*, That in order to preserve the confidence and friendship of the *Indians*, and to prevent their suffering for want of the necessaries of life, a suitable assortment of *Indian* goods, to  
L the

1776. the amount of £40,000 *sterling*, be imported on  
 account and risk of the United Colonies.  
*Jan. 27.*

That the said goods, when imported, be divided among the different departments in the following proportions, *viz.* for the *Northern* department, comprehending *Canada*, £13,333:6:8 *sterling*; for the *Middle* department the like value, and the residue for the *Southern* department.

That in order to pay for the said goods, a quantity of produce of these Colonies be exported to some foreign *European* market, where it will sell to the best advantage.

That the Secret Committee be empowered to contract with proper persons for importing said goods, and for exporting produce to pay for the same.

That the said goods, when imported, be delivered to the Commissioners of *Indian* affairs, for the respective departments, or their order, in the proportions before mentioned.

That the respective Commissioners, or such of them as can conveniently assemble for that purpose, shall, as the goods arrive, fix a price, adding to the first cost interest, the charge of insurance, and all other charges, and also a commission not exceeding *two and an half per cent* on the first cost, for their own care and trouble in receiving, storing and selling them to the *Indian* traders; but such Commissioners as are at the  
 same

same time members of Congress, shall not be burthened with this part of the business, nor receive any part of the aforesaid commission. 1776.  
Jan. 27.

That no person shall be permitted to trade with the *Indians* without licence from one or more of the Commissioners of each respective department.

That all traders shall dispose of their goods at such stated reasonable prices, as shall be fixed and ascertained by the Commissioners, or a majority of such as can conveniently assemble for that purpose in each respective department, and shall allow the *Indians* a reasonable price for their skins and furs, and take no unjust advantage of their distress and intemperance; and to this end they shall respectively, upon receiving their licences, enter into bond to the Commissioners, for the use of the United Colonies, in such penalty, as the acting Commissioners or Commissioner shall think proper, conditioned for the performance of the terms and regulations above prescribed.

That to such licensed traders only the respective Commissioners shall deliver the goods, so to be imported, in such proportions as they shall judge will best promote a fair trade, and relieve the necessities of the *Indians*.

That every trader, on receiving the goods, shall pay to the Commissioners in hand the price at which they shall be estimated; and the Commissioners shall, from time to time, as the money

1776. ney shall come to their hands, transmit the same  
 Jan. 27. to the Continental treasurers, deducting only the  
 allowance for their trouble as aforesaid.

That the trade with the *Indian* nations shall be carried on at such posts and places only as the Commissioners for each department shall respectively appoint.

That these resolutions shall not be construed to prevent or debar any private person from importing goods for the *Indian* trade, under the restrictions expressed in the association.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.

MONDAY, *January* 29, 1776.

A letter from governor *Trumbull*, dated *January* the 20th, being received, was read.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers, in favour of Mr. *James Mease*, commissary, for the sum of 5000 dollars, for the use of the battalions ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*.

The Committee to whom were referred the letter from general *Washington*, dated the 19th instant, with the papers therein mentioned, and the letter from lord *Sterling*, dated the 24th, and the letter from the Committee at *Trenton*, dated the day last mentioned, brought in their report; whereupon

*Resolved*, That the applications made by general

neral *Washington* to the governments of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*, in such an exigency, to raise a regiment in each of those colonies for the service of *Canada*, were prudent, consistent with his duty, and a farther manifestation of his commendable zeal for the good of his country; that the ready attention of the said governments to those applications, and the alacrity with which they undertook, and the expedition with which they proceed in, the business, are additional proofs of their meritorious attachment to the common cause, and may produce signal public advantages; and that it be recommended to the General Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*, to raise the like number of matroses, and in the like manner, and that both these and the additional regiment there be enlisted on the same terms as those directed to be raised for this service in *New-Hampshire*, *Connecticut*, *New-York* and *Pennsylvania*, and for this purpose that 12,500 dollars be advanced to the Delegates of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and forwarded by them, with blank military commissions for the field-officers, captains and subalterns, signed by the President, to the said General Assembly.

1776.  
Jan. 29.

That the three regiments to be raised in *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*, for the service in *Canada*, be exclusive of the thirteen intended to reinforce the army at *Cambridge*.

That the loss of and damage to such fire-arms belonging to the soldiers in the service of the Continent, as shall happen not through carelessness or misbehaviour, the value being ascertained

in

1776. in a proper manner, to be provided by the General Assemblies, Conventions or Councils or  
 Jan. 29. Committees of Safety of the United Colonies respectively, be made good to the owners; and that their arms, after their time of service expired, be not detained from them.

That the alertness, activity and good conduct of lord *Sterling*, and the forwardness and spirit of the gentlemen, and others, from *Elizabethtown*, who voluntarily assisted him in taking the ship *Blue Mountain Valley* were laudable and exemplary; and that his lordship be directed to secure the capture until the further order of the Congress, and that in the mean time he cause such part of the loading, as would otherwise perish, to be disposed of by sale.

The Committee desired leave to sit again, which was granted.

A petition from doctor *Wheelock*, being laid before Congress, was read, and referred to the Committee on *Indian* affairs in the *Middle* department.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,  
 To *Hugh McClenahan*, an express from *Pittsburg*, for expences, &c. the sum of 46. 2 dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That general *Prescot* be committed to, and kept in close confinement in, the goal of *Philadelphia*, till further orders of Congress.

That



That captain *Chace* be remanded to *Trenton*, 1776.  
and permitted to reside with the other officers  
on his parole. Jan. 29.

A memorial and propofal of captain *John Nelson*, refpecting a company of rifle-men, was prefented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Three be appointed, to confer with captain *Nelson*.

The members chofen, Mr. *Morton*, Mr. *Wisner* and Mr. *Sherman*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *January 30*, 1776.

*Resolved*, That doctor *Cadwallader* and doctor *Skippen*, jun. be defired to inspect the room of the goal where general *Prescot* is confined, and enquire into the ftate of his health, and report thereon to Congress.

The Committee appointed to confer with captain *Nelson*, brought in their report, which was taken into confideration, and thereupon

*Resolved*, That captain *Nelson's* company of rifle-men now raifed, confifting of one captain, three lieutenants, four fergeants, four corporals and feventy privates, be inlifted for the fervice of *Canada*, on the fame terms as the other troops ordered for that fervice, and that they march  
to

1776. to *Canada*, and join a regiment there as soon as possible; that they be allowed *one quarter* of a dollar *per day*, for their subsistence on their march to *Albany*.  
 Jan. 30.

That *six* dollars and *two-thirds* of a dollar bounty be paid to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, who is furnished with sufficient arms, accoutrements and cloathing for the service, upon their entering into the service of the Colonies, and one month's pay to the commissioned officers.

That 900 dollars be advanced to said captain *Nelson* for that purpose, and for the subsistence of said company to *Reading*.

That the sum of 700 dollars be sent to the Committee of Inspection at *Reading*; that said Committee pay one month's wages to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers upon their arrival there, and deliver the residue of said sum to captain *Nelson*, for the subsistence of said company in their march from thence to *Albany*; he to account for what money he receives with general *Schuyler*.

The officers of said company are,  
*John Nelson* captain,  
*Moses Dicker* first lieutenant,  
*Adam Ott* second ditto,  
*Isaac Newkirk* third ditto.

The Committee to whom general *Washington's* letter, of the 14th of *January*, was referred, brought

brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, and thereupon

1776.

Jan. 30.

*Resolved*, That all the tent-cloth, which can be procured in *Philadelphia* and *New-York*, be purchased for the Congress, and that the quantity necessary for the ensuing campaign in the army before *Boston*, be forwarded thither, if so much is to be had.

That it be recommended to the several Assemblies in *New-England*, to assist the general in procuring arms; and that the thanks of the Congress be given to such of them as have already done so.

That Mr. *James Mease*, in *Philadelphia*, and Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Alsop* and Mr. *L. Morris*, in *New-York*, be directed to carry the former resolution into execution.

The Committee on the enlistment of apprentices, &c. brought in their report, and the same being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That no apprentice whatsoever be enlisted within the colonies of *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the Counties on *Delaware* or *Maryland*, as a soldier in the army or navy of the United Colonies, without the consent of his master or mistress first obtained in writing, and that all apprentices now enlisted as soldiers in the said army or navy, without such consent, be immediately discharged from the service, on the application

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of

1776. of their masters or mistresses, upon payment of all  
 just and reasonable charges of their enlistment.

Jan. 30.

That it be recommended to all creditors, whose demands against any person who is enlisted, or shall enlist, in the Continental service, shall not amount to the value of 35 dollars, not to arrest any such debtor till the expiration of the time for which he is enlisted.

That every person under the age of *twenty-one* years, enlisting himself in the army or navy aforesaid, may, within 24 hours after such enlistment, obtain his discharge, by refunding the money received from the recruiting officer, and returning such necessaries as may have been supplied him by the officer, or the value thereof in money.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn on the treasurers for the sum of 1000 dollars, to discharge a draught of the paymaster general, for so much deposited with him, for the use of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Five be appointed, to take into consideration an application from the Committee of Safety for *New-York*.

The members chosen, Mr. *Ward*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *Lee* and Mr. *Rodney*.

*Resolved*, That the Naval Committee be empowered to draw on the treasurers for a sum not exceeding

exceeding 30,000 dollars, in order to discharge fundry debts by them contracted.

1776.  
Jan. 30.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Morris* be added to the Committee of Secret Correspondence.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *January 31*, 1776.

Sundry letters, viz. one from lord *Sterling*, dated the 27th of *January*, one from the Committee of *Trenton*, of the 30th, one from colonel *St. Clair*, of the 27th, and one from colonel *Maxwell*, of the 31st of the same month, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of Two be appointed, to confer with colonel *Maxwell* respecting the state of his regiment, and report the means of facilitating and hastening his march.

The members chosen, Mr. *Livingston* and Mr. *Wilson*.

A report from doctor *Cadwallader* and doctor *Shippen*, respecting the room where general *Prescot* is confined, and the state of the general's health, was laid before Congress, and read.

The Congress taking into consideration the letter from colonel *St. Clair*, respecting the enlistment of some of the prisoners at *Lancaster*,

*Resolved*, That the prisoners, who have been

1776. enlisted into the Continental army, be discharged,  
and that no more be enlisted.

Jan. 31.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing resolve be sent to the Committee of *Lancaster*.

The Committee to whom sundry letters were referred, on the 27th instant, brought in a farther report; whereupon

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Barbarie*, owner of the sloop and cargo said to have been taken by the enemy, and retaken by one of the Continental vessels of war, ought to make and prosecute his claim to the same before the Court appointed, or to be appointed, by the government of the colony to which the said sloop and cargo were carried, to hear and determine causes civil and maritime, where a process ought to be instituted, to confirm the recapture, and adjust the salvage.

The Committee appointed to confer with colonel *Maxwell*, brought in their report; whereupon

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Thomas Lowry*, commissary for the battalions in *New-Jersey*, be directed to procure all necessaries, except arms, for colonel *Maxwell's* regiment immediately, and that the cost of the cloathing and other articles absolutely essential, which the non-commissioned officers and privates are to pay for, be by the said commissary procured forthwith, the cost thereof to be deducted out of the pay of the said non-commissioned officers and soldiers; and that the  
Convention,

Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey* get the arms already ordered with all possible expedition, and afford Mr. *Lowry* all assistance in the execution of the above.

1776.

Jan. 31.

That the company in the said regiment, which is nearest being furnished, be supplied by any arms and necessaries in the said battalion, and marched for *Canada*, and that the other companies be furnished, and marched as soon as possible.

The Congress taking into consideration the letter from lord *Sterling*,

*Resolved*, That the private adventures of the captain and mates of the transport *Blue Mountain Valley* be delivered to them, and that they be permitted to return to *England*.

The Delegates for *Massachusetts-Bay* laid before Congress an account of their appointment, by which it appears, that

The honourable *John Hancock*, Esq;

Mr. *Samuel Adams*,

*John Adams*, Esq;

*Robert Treat Paine*, Esq;

*Eldridge Gerry*, Esq;

are elected to represent the said colony in Congress for the year 1776.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENTS TO THE PRESENT TIME  
BY JAMES OSGOOD

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# JOURNALS

## O F

# CONGRESS.

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THURSDAY, *February* 1. 1776.

*Resolved,*

**T**HAT an Order be drawn on the <sup>Feb. 1.</sup> Treasurers in favour of the Delegates of *Virginia*, for the Sum of  $333 \frac{1}{3}$  Dollars, for the use of Mr. *J. Walker*, one of the Commissioners for Indian Affairs in the Southern Department, the said Delegates to be accountable.

*Resolved,*

That a Member be added to the Committee on the State of the Treasury, in the room of Mr. *Cushing*.

The Member chosen, Mr. *S. Adams*.

*Resolved,*

That General *Prescot* be allowed the attendance of his Servant, and of a Physician, in case his health require it.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania* be desired to take the Parole of such Officers who are Prisoners now in *Philadelphia*, and order them to their respective Places of residence.

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*Feb. 1.* The Congress took into consideration the report of the Committee on establishing Posts and Expresses, and after debate,

*Resolved,*

That the farther consideration thereof be postponed, and that in the mean while Dr. *Franklin* be directed to write to the Post-masters, and enquire on what terms Expresses can be procured.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *February 2. 1776.*

*Feb. 2.*

Two Letters from General *Schuyler* dated 22d and 25th January, accompanied with an Account of his expedition to *Tryon* County, and enclosing fundry dispatches from *Canada*, and other Papers, being received were read, and referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, and Mr. *M'Kean*.


A receipt of General *Schuyler* for £ 7829 : 9 : 0 *Pennsylvania* Currency, equal to 20878.5 Dollars, sent him by Order of the 30th of *December*, was laid before Congress.

A Letter from Colonel *Wayne* being read,  
*Resolved,*

That Colonel *Wayne* be directed to quarter his Battalion in and near *Chester*, until the farther orders of Congress, or of a Committee of Congress, for that purpose appointed.

*Ordered,*

That the Secretary deliver Mr. *J. Mease*  
a copy

a copy of Colonel *Wayne's* letter, so far as respects *Feb. 2.*  
the supplying his Battalion with necessaries. 

The Committee to whom the Memorial of *M. Aspden* was referred, brought in their Report, whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *Matthias Aspden* be permitted to export in the Sloop *Tryal*, consigned to him from *Port au Prince*, the produce or manufactures of these Colonies (horned cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, and lumber for making casks excepted) to *Port au Prince*, to the amount of eighteen hundred pounds, *Pennsylvania* currency.

That the above permission be not drawn into precedent, and that Mr. *Aspden* take every possible precaution to avoid all *British* men of war and cutters on the voyage.

The Committee to whom the Memorial of *Keppele* and *Steinmatz* was referred, brought in their report, whereupon

*Resolved,*

That the Memorialists have no just claim to satisfaction or reparation for the loss of their ship and cargo, seized by one of the King's ships of war, and detained by Admiral *Graves* and General *Howe*, either out of the Continental treasury, or out of the value of the cloathing sent hither to supply the *British* troops at *Boston*, and intercepted and disposed of to the use of the *American* Army.

*Resolved,*

*Feb. 2. Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to take an account of the Prisoners, the names of the Officers, and their Places of Residence, and report the same to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Wifner*.

A Memorial from the Rev. Mr. *Samson Occum* was read, and referred to the Committee on Indian affairs.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday* next,

MONDAY, *February 5. 1776.*

*Feb. 5.*

*Resolved,*

That General *Schuyler* be directed to have the Arms of such of the Troops marching to *Canada*, as pass through *Albany*, carefully examined there, and such of them as are deficient and want repair exchanged for the good effective Arms taken from the Tories, and to order those exchanged and left, to be repaired.

The Committee to whom General *Schuyler's* Letters were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, and thereupon

*Resolved,*

That General *Schuyler* has proceeded, in disarming such Inhabitants of the County of *Tryon*, in the Colony of *New-York*, as were disaffected, and providing for the future tranquility of these parts, with fidelity, prudence, and dispatch

patch, and at the same time with a proper temper *Feb. 5.* towards that deluded People, and thereby performed a meritorious service.

That the chearfulness and ready assistance of those who accompanied General *Schuyler* in his march to the County of *Tryon*, and their useful services in that expedition, discovered such a Patriotic Spirit, that it is hoped none of them will allow their Countrymen to entertain a suspicion that any ignoble motive actuated them, by requiring a pecuniary reward, especially when they were employed in suppressing a mischief in their own neighbourhood.

That the Resolution of Congress of the 8th of last Month for sending Ship-wrights from the Cities of *New-York* and *Philadelphia*, to build Bateaus at *Ticonderoga*, be superseded, and that General *Schuyler* be desired to employ any such Artificers, as he shall think proper, in that Business.

That General *Schuyler* be desired to issue Warrants for completing the Regiment directed to be raised in *New-York* for the service of *Canada*; and that it be recommended to the Convention of that Colony to appoint such Officers thereof, as General *Schuyler* hath nominated.

That the appointments by General *Schuyler* of Mr. *Hubbard Brown* to be Conductor of Artillery, *Gysbert Marselis*, Esq; to be Barrack Master, Mr. *Peter Schuyler* to take charge of the Arms, and Mr. *Philip Van Ranselair*, to be Store-keeper at *Albany*, be confirmed; and that General *Schuyler*  
be

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*Feb.* 5. be desired to inform Congress of the proper Salaries to be annexed to those Offices.

That General *Schuyler* be desired to procure skilful persons to assist General *Wooster* in exploring the river *St. Lawrence*, and to construct the armed Boats to be kept there, according to a former Resolution of Congress.

That the bounty given by General *Schuyler* for encouraging Men to enter into the *Canadian* service be approved, in consideration of the severe Climate and inclement Season.

That by the Resolution of Congress of the 8th of last Month, respecting the Provision and Stores to be sent to Fort *George*, it was intended as General *Schuyler* understood it, that he should be supplied with such of those articles as he should require.

That General *Schuyler* be desired to employ such Batteau-men as are in or near *Albany*, instead of those it was recommended to the Convention of *New-York* to procure, upon the best terms he can, and to acquaint Congress for what wages they will serve.

That Captain *Wyncoop* be employed under Commodore *Douglass*, in the Naval department.

*Ordered,*

That General *Schulyer's* Narrative of his

his march into *Tryon* County be published in the *Feb. 5.*  
News-papers.

The Committee to whom the Memorial of *Samson Occum*, one of the *Mohegan* Indians, in *Connecticut*, was referred, brought in their report, whereupon  
*Resolved,*

That a friendly Commerce between the People of the United Colonies and the Indians, and the propagation of the Gospel, and the cultivation of the Civil Arts among the latter, may produce many and inestimable advantages to both; and that the Commissioners for Indian affairs be desired to consider of proper places in their respective departments for the residence of Ministers and School-masters, and report the same to Congress.

That the Commissioners for Indian affairs in the northern department be desired to enquire of Mr. *Jacob Fowler* of the *Montauke* tribe of Indians on *Long-Island*, and Mr. *Joseph Johnson* of the *Mohegan*, upon what terms they will reside among the Six Nations of Indians, and instruct them in the Christian Religion.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *Dobicky Arundel*, who was recommended to the notice of Congress by Mr. *Lewis*, be desired to repair to General *Schuyler*, and that General *Schuyler* be directed to examine him, and if he finds him capable, and suitably qualified, to employ him in the Artillery-service in *Canada*.

Dr. *Cadwallader* having, in a Letter to the President, represented, that being sent for by General

*Prescot*

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*Feb. 5.* *Prescot* last *Saturday* night, he found him in a dangerous state of health, and farther expressing an apprehension, that the dampness of the room may endanger the General's life, if he remains there long. It was thereupon

*Resolved,*

That *Dr. Cadwallader* be desired to have proper lodgings provided for General *Prescot*; and that General *Prescot* be removed from the goal to said lodgings, and there kept under a guard.

That the Commanding Officer of the Troops in the Barracks of *Philadelphia* be directed to keep a proper guard over General *Prescot*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *February 6.* 1776.

*Feb. 6.* A Letter from the Committee of Safety for *New-York* was read, informing that General *Clinton* arrived there on the 4th inst. but that it was apprehended his destination was to the southward.

*Ordered,*

That a copy of said Letter be sent to the southern Colonies.

The Congress being informed that Colonel *Heard* having performed the service enjoined him, was ready to make report of his proceedings.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to confer with Colonel *Heard*, and receive his report.

The



The Members chosen, Mr. *Crane*, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, <sup>Feb. 6.</sup> and Mr. *M<sup>c</sup>Kean*.

A Petition from sundry Captains of the *New-Jersey* Battalions was laid before Congress and read, whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That the sum of one Dollar, and one third of a Dollar, be allowed to the Officers of the two first *New-Jersey* Battalions, for every Recruit by them raised and that has passed Muster.

A Letter from the Committee of *Reading* in *Berks* County was read, mentioning the arrival of a number of Prisoners, and desiring to know how they are to be supported.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to the Committee appointed to contract for supplying the Prisoners.

*Resolved,*

That two Members be added to said Committee in the room of those absent.

The Members chosen Mr. *Wilson* and Mr. *Wolcott*.

The Committee on the Regulations of Trade after the first of *March* next, brought in their report, which was read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to *Thursday* next, then to be considered in a Committee of the whole.

B

*Resolved,*

Feb. 6. *Resolved,*

That General *Schuyler* be desired to encourage Sutlers to attend the Army in *Canada*, and that they return such Specie as they shall receive for the articles they supply it with, to the Commissary, who shall draw orders, countersigned by the General, for the amount thereof, upon the President; by which a sufficient stock may be in hand to pay off the Soldiers, and the risk and expence of sending money for that purpose may be avoided.

The Committee appointed to confer with Colonel *Heard*, laid before Congress a list of nineteen persons taken into custody by him, agreeable to the orders of Congress, and brought to *Philadelphia*.

The names of the prisoners are, *Benjamin Whitehead, Joseph French, John Polhemus, Nathaniel Moor, Samuel Hallet, William Weyman, John Shoals, John Willet, Gilbert Van Wyck, Daniel Kiffam, Jacob Mott, Gabriel G. Ludlow, Charles Hicks, Samuel Martin, Samuel Clowes, Thomas Smith, George Weeks, David Brooks, John Townsend.*

*Resolved,*

That the said Prisoners be sent to *New-York*, and delivered to the order of the Convention of that Colony, who are requested to confine or secure the said Prisoners, until an enquiry be had by the Convention into their conduct, and report thereof made to this Congress.

*Ordered,*

That the Committee confirm with Colonel *Heard* about the mode of sending the Prisoners to *New-York*. The

The Committee of Claims reported that there is *Feb. 6.*  
due,

To *George Kennedy*, on fundry certificates by him produced the sum of 427.1 Dollars, of which 338.9 Dollars being for Rifles, &c. furnished to Captain *Morgan's* Company of Riflemen from *Virginia*, ought to be charged to said Company, and the remainder to the Continent.

*Ordered,*

That the same be paid.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of five be appointed to bring in a resolution respecting the exportation of Naval Stores for the public service.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Ward*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *S. Adams*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *February 7.* 1776.

*Resolved,*

That an order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *Peter Webbers*, an Express, for the sum of 8 Dollars, for the time he has been detained in town. *Feb. 7.*

Two Letters from Lord *Sterling*, dated the 2d and 5th of this Month, with fundry Papers enclosed, were read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Chase*, Mr. *Rutledge*, and Mr. *Wythe*. The

*Feb. 7.* The Congress took into consideration the report of the Committee on the Letter from the Committee of Safety for *New-Jersey*, respecting the Prisoners, and after debate,

*Resolved,*

That the same be re-committed to the Committee who brought it in, and to the Committee appointed to take an account of the prisoners.

That it be an instruction to the Committee to examine the Capitulations entered into with the Prisoners at the time of their surrender, to have the Paroles of the Officers taken, to order them to their respective places of residence, to see that the Capitulations be duly observed, and the Orders of Congress respecting the Prisoners punctually carried into execution, and finally to make a return to Congress of the Paroles of the Officers; their Names and Places of residence, and also the number of Privates and where placed.

As only three of the former Committees are now present, viz. Mr. *Adams*, Mr. *McKean*, and Mr. *Smith*.

*Resolved,*

That two more be added.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson* and Mr. *Wolcott*.

*Resolved,*

That an order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. *James Mease*, for the sum of 10,000 Dollars, for the use of the Battalions ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, he to be accountable.

That

That a like order be drawn in favour of the Na-<sup>Feb. 7.</sup>  
val Committee, for the sum of 20,000 Dollars, to  
enable them to discharge the debts by them con-  
tracted, the said Committee to be accountable.

That the sum of 250,000 Dollars be sent to the  
Pay-Master General for the use of the Army at  
*Cambridge*.

The Committee on the Letters from *Reading*  
reported, that they have had a conference with  
*David Franks*, Esq. Agent to the Contractors for  
victualling the King's Troops, who says he will  
order rations to be issued to the Prisoners lately  
brought to *Reading*, whereupon

*Resolved,*

That *D. Franks*, Esq. be permitted to  
victual the Prisoners at *Reading*, and to sell his  
Bills to defray the expence thereof.

That directions be given to *Henry Holler* to fur-  
nish said Prisoners with fuel and other necessaries.

A Memorial from *Murray, Sansom, & Co. Jacob  
Watson*, and *Frederic Rhineland* of the City of  
*New-York*, was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to a Com-  
mittee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Lee*, Mr. *Nelson*, and  
Mr. *Read*.

A Petition of *Pierre L'Farque* being presented  
to Congress and read,

*Resolved,*

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*Feb. 7. Resolved,*



That it be referred to the secret Committee.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to examine the Journals and report a list of the matters yet unfinished.

The Members chosen, Mr. E. Rutledge, Mr. Duane, and Mr. Smith.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, February 8. 1776.

*Feb. 8. Resolved,*



That the Money voted yester day be sent to the Pay-Master General, under the care of Colonel Bull, and two other trusty persons.

The Treasurers transmitted to Congress an account of sundry draughts by them paid, viz.

1775.

*Aug. 23.* One in favour of John Mease by General Washington, for 266  $\frac{2}{3}$  Dollars.

*Nov. 27.* One in favour of Dr. Franklin, by James Warren, for 7111 Dollars.

1776.

*Feb. 2.* One in favour of Cox and Furman, by ditto, for 1000 Dollars.

*Feb. 6.* One in favour of John Beane, by ditto, for 750 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the above sums be charged to the account of James Warren, the Pay-Master General.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

*Feb. 8.*

That a Committee of three be appointed to contract with a proper person to supply Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion with the rations allowed them.

Also with a proper Person to supply the *Pennsylvania* Troops on the west side of the *Susquehanna*; and with a proper person to supply the Battalion ordered to be raised in the Counties on *Delaware*, while in that Government.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Morton*, Mr. *Lewis*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Tench Tilghman*, for escorting Money from *Philadelphia* to General *Schuyler*, the sum of 286.9 Dollars.

To *Azariah Dunham* on sundry Certificates for provisions to several Rifle Companies, 25.8 Dollars.

To *Melchior Ming*, for Waggon hire in carrying Money to *Cambridge*, the sum of 76 Dollars.

To *Moses Gale*, for the entertainment of Captain *Chuggage's* Company of Rifle-men, 9.7 Dollars to be paid to *Henry Wisner*, Esq.

To *John B. Scott*, for expences in conducting General *Prescot* from *Trenton* to *Philadelphia*, 14.3 Dollars.

To *George Bunner*, for Waggon hire in carrying Money from *Philadelphia* to General *Schuyler*, last *November*, 39 Dollars.

To





of my election, and there, or within six miles <sup>Feb. 8.</sup> thereof, to remain during the present War between *Great Britain* and the said United Colonies, or until the Congress of the said United Colonies, or the Assembly, Convention, or Committee or Council of Safety of the said Colony, shall order otherwise; and that I will not directly or indirectly, give any intelligence whatsoever to the enemies of the United Colonies, or do or say any thing in opposition to, or in prejudice of, the measures and proceedings of any Congress for the said Colonies, during the present troubles, or until I am duly exchanged or discharged.

Given under my Hand, this      day of      A. D.

The Secret Committee, to whom the Petition of Mr. *Pierre L'Farque* was referred, brought in their report, whereupon

*Resolved,*

Mr. *Pierre L'Farque* be permitted to load the Sloop, in which he imported a small quantity of Powder and Arms, with the produce of these Colonies (horned cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, and lumber for making casks excepted) and export the same to *Martinique*. And that the said Mr. *Pierre L'Farque* do take every possible precaution to avoid all *British* men of war and cutters on the Voyage, and use his utmost endeavours to import into these Colonies the Powder and Arms mentioned in his Memorial, and proposed to be imported by him.

The Committee on the Memorial of *Sansom,*  
C *Murray,*

*Feb. 8.* *Murray*, and Co. &c. brought in their report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the Table.

A Memorial from the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, respecting the erecting of Powder-Mills, was presented to Congress and read,

*Ordered to lie on the Table.*

*Resolved,*

That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *Dobicky Arundel*, for the sum of 100 Dollars, and that he be directed immediately to repair to General *Schuyler*.

That a quarter cask of Powder be delivered to Captain *Graig* of Colonel *St. Clair's* Battalion, for the use of his Company.

That the sum of 12,000 Dollars be advanced to the Convention or Committee of Safety for *New-York*, for the use of the four Battalions ordered to be raised there; that the same be transmitted by the Delegates of that Colony, the said Convention or Committee of Safety to be accountable.

A Memorial from Dr. *Connolly*, together with a Letter from Dr. *Benjamin Rush*, respecting the state of said *Connolly's* health, was presented to Congress and read, whereupon

*Resolved,*

That the said *J. Connolly* be allowed at suitable times to walk in the Prison-yard or hall, the Goal keeper taking especial care to prevent his escape.

The

The Inhabitants of *Richmond* County in the Co-<sup>Feb. 8.</sup>lony of *New York*, having refused to send Deputies to represent them in Provincial Convention, and otherwise manifested their enmity and opposition to the system and measures adopted for preserving the liberties of *America*, and as a just punishment for their inimical conduct, the Inhabitants of that Colony, having been prohibited by the Convention from all intercourse and dealings with the Inhabitants of the said County, and this Congress being informed by the Committee of Safety of that Colony, that the Freeholders of the said County did afterwards, without any opposition, elect Deputies to represent them in Provincial Convention, but as the proceedings against them had been submitted to the consideration of Congress, it was apprehended the Deputies could not be received, until the sense of Congress thereupon should be communicated.

*Resolved*, therefore,

That it be referred to the said Provincial Convention to take such measures respecting the admission of the Deputies, and revoking the Interdict against the Inhabitants of said County, as they shall judge most expedient, provided that the said Deputies and major part of the Inhabitants of said County shall subscribe the Association entered into in that Colony.

*Resolved*,

That *Monday* the 19th day of this Month be assigned for Dr. *Smith* to deliver a Funeral Oration in honour of General *Montgomery*, and of those Officers and Soldiers who so magnanimously

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Feb. 8. mously fought and fell with him in maintaining the Principles of *American Liberty*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock To-morrow.

FRIDAY, *February 9. 1776.*


Feb. 9. Mr. *Elbridge Gerry*, one of the Delegates for *Massachusetts-Bay*, appeared and took his seat in Congress, whereupon the Certificate of their Appointment and Powers was read, as follows:

“ In COUNCIL, *January 18. 1776.*

Whereas *John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, and Elbridge Gerry*, Esquires, have been chosen by joint Ballot of the two Houses of Assembly, to represent the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay* in *New England*, in the *American Congress*, until the first day of *January, A. D. 1777.*

*Resolved,*

That they, or any one or more of them, are hereby fully empowered with the Delegates from the other *American Colonies* to concert, direct, and order such farther measures, as shall to them appear best calculated for the establishment, of Right and Liberty to the *American Colonies*, upon a Basis permanent and secure, against the Power and Art of the *British Administration*, and guarded against any future encroachments of their Enemies, with power to adjourn to such times and places,

places, as shall appear most conducive to the Pub-<sup>Feb. 9.</sup>  
lic safety and advantage. 

*Read and accepted. Sent down for Concurrence.*

JOHN LOWELL, *Dep. Sec. pro tem.*

*In the HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES, January  
18. 1776.*

Read and concurred. And the Secretary is  
hereby directed, as soon as may be, to signify to each  
of those Gentlemen their appointment, with an at-  
tested Copy of this Order. *Sent up for concurrence.*

JAMES WARREN, *Speaker.*

*In COUNCIL, January, 18. 1776.*

Read and concurred.

JOHN LOWELL, *Dep. Sec. pro tem.*

*A true Copy,*

*Attest.*

PEREZ MORTON, *Dep. Sec.*

Sundry Letters being received, were laid before  
Congress and read, viz.

Two from General *Washington*, of the 24th and  
30th of *January*, enclosing a copy of one to Gene-  
ral *Schuyler*, 27th *January*, and a number of in-  
tercepted Letters.

Three

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*Feb. 9.* Three from General *Schuyler*, 29th and 31st *January*, and 1st of *February*, enclosing copies of two Letters from Colonel *Arnold*, and fundry other Papers.

One from Governor *Trumbull*, 3d. *February*, with fundry Papers enclosed.

*Resolved,*

That the foregoing Letters be referred to a Committee of five.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Chase*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Penn*, Mr. *Wythe*, and Mr. *Rutledge*.

Two Letters from the Convention of *New Jersey*, of the 6th of *February* were read.

The one respecting Tea, referred for consideration to *Monday* next.

The other recommending persons for Field Officers of the third Battalion, ordered to be raised in that Colony. Whereupon the Congress proceeded to election, and,

*Elias Dayton* was elected Colonel.

*Anthony Walton White*, Lieutenant-Colonel.

*Francis Barber*, Major.

A Memorial from Mr. *Kirkland* was presented to Congress and read,

*Ordered to lie on the table.*

The

The Congress taking into consideration the re-<sup>Feb. 9</sup>port of the Committee on the second Memorial of *Sansom, Murray and Company, &c.*

*Resolved,*

That the Memorialists be permitted to make sale of their cargo of Wheat, in *Connecticut*, or else to proceed on their original voyage to *Falmouth* in *England*, and a market under the office papers and clearances, with which the said vessel sailed with from *New-York* in *September* last, and also subject to the former restrictions of Congress respecting the appointment of a Commander.

The Congress being informed of the arrival of some Arms, Powder and Saltpetre.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee appointed on the 13th of last month to purchase the Saltpetre then imported, &c. be directed and empowered to take every necessary measure to have the Saltpetre now arrived manufactured into Gun-powder with all possible expedition.

That two tons of the Powder now arrived, belonging to the United Colonies, be delivered to the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, in part of the Powder borrowed of them.

That one ton of said Powder be delivered to the Delegates of *North Carolina*, in consequence of a former order of Congress, which has not yet been complied with.

That the Committee appointed for manufacturing

*Feb. 9.* turing the Saltpetre into Gun-powder be directed to enquire into the state and quantity of the Arms, Powder and Saltpetre now arrived, and report to Congress.

A Memorial from *Stacy Hepburn* was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *M<sup>c</sup>Kean*, Mr. *Nelson*, and Mr. *Penn*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday* next.

MONDAY, *February* 12, 1776.

*Feb. 12.*

A letter from General *Lee*, dated the 9th Inst. being received, was read, wherein he informs, that a transport with troops was arrived at *New-York*, that more might be expected, and therefore that a farther reinforcement was necessary to secure and defend that place, whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New Jersey* immediately to send detachments of their Minute Men equal to a Battalion, under proper Officers, to *New-York*, there to be under the command of Major General *Lee*.

That it is also recommended to the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, immediately to send detachments



detachments of the four Battalions of Associators *Feb. 12.*  
in *Philadelphia* to *New-York*, there to put them-  
selves under the command of General *Lee*.

*Resolved,*

That the Colonels of the Battalions ordered to be raised in *Pennsylvania*, be directed to make an immediate return to Congress of the men enlisted, the places where they now are, and the manner in which they are appointed.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed to send to *New-York* one ton of the Powder belonging to the United Colonies, and that the same be delivered to the order of General *Lee*.

That the said Committee be empowered to purchase for the use of the United Colonies, on the best terms they can, what Powder and Arms arrive, belonging to private persons, and that they furnish with good Arms such of the three remaining Companies of the first *Pennsylvania* Battalion destined for *Canada*, as may want them, in order that they may immediately proceed on their march.

*Resolved,*

That fifty tons of Saltpetre be delivered by the Secret Committee to the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, who are requested to have the same manufactured into Gun-powder in the cheapest and most expeditious manner, and that this Congress will confirm any contracts made for the above purpose.

That ten tons of Saltpetre be by them sent to  
Mr. *J. B. Livingston's* mill in the Colony of *New-*  
D York,

*Feb. 12.* *York*, and that Mr. *Livingston* be desired to manufacture it into Powder as soon as possible, and to enlarge his works, if it can conveniently be done.

That ten tons of Saltpetre be also by them sent to the Council of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and that they be desired to have it manufactured into Gun-powder, with all possible expedition, and sent to General *Washington* for the use of the army under his command.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Chester* to aid Colonel *Wayne* in procuring Blankets for his Battalion.

The Congress being informed that a Gentleman was arrived from *Canada*, who had matters of importance to communicate.

*Ordered,*

That the Committee of Correspondence confer with him and report to Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *February 13*, 1776.

*Feb. 13.*

*Resolved,*

That an order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *John Chapman*, for the sum of eight hundred Dollars, to discharge a draught of the Paymaster General, in favour of *William Thompson*, Esq; dated the 28th of *December* last, and that the same be charged to the account of the Pay-master General.

Sundry

Sundry Letters being received were read, viz. *Feb. 13.*

One from the Convention of *New Jersey*, dated the 10th, and one from Messrs. *Dayton* and *Barber* of the 12th of this month.

One from Captain *John Nevill*, dated *Pittsburgh* February 1st, and one from *John Gibson*, dated 20th of *January* last.

*Resolved,*

That the two last letters be referred to the Committee on the *Indian Affairs* in the middle department.

That a Committee of Three be appointed to take into consideration the two former letters.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Bartlett*, and Mr. *Adams*.

*Resolved,*

That an order for eight thousand Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of the Committee of Safety for the three Lower Counties on *Delaware*, for the sum of 8000 Dollars, for the use of the Battalion raising in that government, the said Committee to be accountable.

That an order for ten thousand Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *James Mease*, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, he to be accountable.

That Mr. *Mease* be directed to supply the Troops  
in

*Feb. 13.* in the Barracks near *Philadelphia*, with wooden bowls, buckets and other necessaries.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, in case the Barracks near *Philadelphia* cannot contain all the troops raised in said Colony, that they cause part of them to be quartered in the Pest-house and old Gaol of this City.

*Resolved,*

That an order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Colonel *Bull*, for the sum of one hundred and fifty Dollars, to defray his expences in carrying money to *Cambridge*, he to be accountable.

The Committee on the Petition of *Stacy Hepburn* brought in their report, which was agreed to as follows:

That the said Petitioner be permitted to load the Sloop *Dolphin* with the produce of these Colonies, (live stock and lumber for making casks excepted) and to transport the same to *Hispaniola*, he promising to use his utmost endeavours to remit the amount of said Cargo in Military Stores, into some port of this Continent as soon as possible.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Resolution for the Exportation of Naval Stores brought in the same, which was agreed to as follows:

*Resolved,*

That when Naval Stores shall be wanted in any of the United Colonies, the Assembly, Convention,

Convention, or Committee of Safety of such Co-<sup>Feb. 13.</sup>lony, may intrust a proper Person or Persons to import the same, taking sufficient security, of him or them, that they will faithfully use their best endeavours to import the same into such Port or Ports as the said Assembly, Convention, or Committee of Safety shall direct, and as much as possible to avoid all *British* men of war and cutters, giving him or them, a certificate or certificates of the Naval Stores wanted, and also of his having given the said Security: And that it be recommended to the Convention, Council of Safety, and Committees of Observation and Inspection of *North-Carolina* upon receiving such certificates, to permit the Person or Persons producing the same, to export to the Colony applying for the same, the Naval Stores wanted by such Colony.

That it be further recommended to the said Convention, Council of Safety and Committees of Inspection, and Observation in *North-Carolina* to give permission to such vessels, as may have arrived in that Colony for those articles, or such of the vessels belonging to that Colony, as they may think proper, to export Naval Stores to any of the United Colonies, taking security as in the other cases above mentioned.

*Resolved,*

That the Pay and Subsistence of two of the Battalions ordered to be raised in the Colony of *Virginia*, commence from the first Day of *November* last; from which time they have been in actual service.

The

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*Feb. 13.* The Convention of *Virginia* having recommended Persons for Field Officers of the six Battalions ordered to be raised in that Colony, the Congress proceeded to an Election, when

*Patrick Henry*, Esq; was elected Colonel of the 1st Battalion,

*William Christian*, Esq; Lieutenant-Colonel of do.

*Frank Eppes*, Esq; Major - - do.

*William Woodford*, Esq; Colonel of the 2d Battalion,

*Charles Scott*, Esq; Lieutenant-Colonel do.

*Alexander Spotswood*, Esq; Major do.

*Hugh Mercer*, Esq; Colonel of the 3d Battalion.

*George Weedon*, Esq; Lieutenant-Colonel do.

*Thomas Marshall*, Esq; Major - do.

*Adam Stephen*, Esq; Colonel of the 4th Battalion,

*Isaac Reade*, Esq; Lieutenant-Colonel do.

*Robert Lawfon*, Esq; Major - do.

*William Peachey*, Esq; Colonel of the 5th Battalion.

*William Crawford*, Esq; Lieutenant-Colonel of do.

*Josiah Parker*, Esq; Major - do.

*Mordecai Buckner*, Esq; Colonel of the 6th Battalion,

*Thomas Elliott*, Esq; Lieutenant-Colonel of do.

*James Hendricks*, Esq; Major - do,

*Ordered,*

That the President fill up Commissions to the above Officers, and that he send blank Commissions to the Convention of *Virginia* to be by them filled up with the Names of the Officers appointed by them in the said Battalions, under the Rank of a Major.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*Feb. 13<sup>d</sup>

That the Deputy Muster Master General be directed to muster the Battalion raised in the three Lower Counties on *Delaware*, and also those raised in *Pennsylvania*, and make return to Congress.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of five be appointed to consider into what Departments the middle and southern Colonies ought to be formed, in order that the Military Operations of the Colonies may be carried on in a regular and systematic Manner.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Penn*, Mr. *Harrison* and Mr. *Alexander*.

*Resolved,*

That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of the Delegates of *Virginia* for the Sum of 20,000 Dollars for the Use of the Battalions, ordered to be raised there, the Convention of that Colony to be accountable.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *M'Kean* be desired to request the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* not to proceed in passing any censures on the Venders, and Users of Tea, till further orders from Congress.

*Resolved,*

That the Detachments marching from *Philadelphia* to *New-York*, under the Command of Colonel *Dickinson* be allowed for Subsistence while on their March, the Sum of One Dollar, and one Third

*Feb. 13.* Third of a Dollar *per* Week for each of the Privates; and Non-commissioned Officers; and that the Commissioned Officers be allowed in Proportion according to the Rations allotted to them, and that they receive the same Pay as the four *Pennsylvania* Battalions, from the Time they begin their March.

That a Committee of three be appointed to consider the best Method of subsisting the Troops in *New-York*, and what Sum of Money it will be necessary to send thither, and also what Sum ought to be advanced to Colonel *Dickinson*.

The Members chosen Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *Duane* and Mr. *Wilson*.

A Petition from Mr. *Bernard Romans* was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the Convention of *New-York* to pay Mr. *Bernard Romans* up to the 9th Day of the present Month.

*Resolved,*

That an Order for 600 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *Samuel Fairlamb* (who has contracted to supply Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion, quartered in and near *Chester* at the Rate of Seven Ninetieths of a Dollar *per* Ration) to enable him to execute his Contract, he to be accountable.

The Committee appointed to prepare an Address to the Inhabitants of the United Colonies, brought in a Draught which was read.

*Ordered,*



*Ordered to lie on the Table.*

*Feb. 13.*

*Resolved,*

That Captain *Gordon* upon giving his Parole, be permitted, while he remains in Town, to visit General *Prescot* at proper seasons.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

W E D N E S D A Y, *February* 14, 1776.

*Resolved,*

That two of the Brafts Six Pounders at *New-York* belonging to the United Colonies, be sent to *Virginia* for the Use of the Forces there.

Sundry Letters being received were read.

One from General *Schuyler* of the 7th of this Month.

One from General *Wooster* of 29 *January*, and one from General *Arnold* of 24th of said Month.

*Resolved,*

That the foregoing Letters with the Papers enclosed, be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *J. Adams* and Mr. *Chase*.

A Letter from the Committee of *Amboy* dated 10th of this Month, was read and referred for consideration till to-morrow,

*Feb. 14.* The Committee of Claims reported that there is  
 due,

To *John Ware* for conducting a *French Gentleman* from *Harwick Township* in *Suffex County* to *Philadelphia*, the sum of 13. 2 Dollars.

*Ordered that the same be paid.*

Application being made by some of the Master Carpenters employed in building the Continental Frigates to some Members of this House, informing that about fifty of their Journeymen and Apprentices had engaged as Volunteers to march with the Battalion of Associators for *New-York*, and that their Zeal for the public Service was such, that they cannot be persuaded to desist by any arguments or influence of said Builders.

*Resolved,*

That the Spirit and Zeal of the said Journeymen and Apprentices is highly approved of by Congress, but nevertheless it is the Opinion of this Congress, that the Public will be more essentially served by their continuing at work on the said Continental Frigates, and that therefore all the Carpenters Journeymen and Apprentices employed as aforesaid be requested to remain in that Service, as there is no doubt but other Associators will complete the Number wanted,

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Regulations and Restrictions under which the Ports should be opened after  
 the

the first Day of *March* next, and after some time *Feb. 14.* spent thereon, the President resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported that the Committee had taken into consideration the Matter referred to them; but not having come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into farther consideration the Report of the Committee on the Restrictions and Regulations of Trade after the first of *March* next.

The Committee of Correspondence, who were ordered to confer with the Gentleman from *Canada*, brought in their Report which was read.

*Resolved,*

That the Consideration thereof be referred till to-morrow.

The Committee appointed to consider the best Method of subsisting the Troops in *New-York*, laid their report on the Table.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *February 15*, 1776.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee deliver One *Feb. 15.* hundred and fifty Stand of Arms to Colonel *Maxwell*, for the Use of such of the Companies of his Battalion as want them, in order that they may immediately proceed to *Canada*.

The

# 36 JOURNALS OF CONGRESS,

*Feb. 15.* The Committee to whom the Letters from the Convention of *New-Jersey*, and from the Field Officers of the third Battalion, ordered to be raised in that Colony, were referred, brought in their report, which was read and agreed to as follows:

*Resolved,*

That Colonel *Heard* be directed to furnish Colonel *Dayton* with such of the Arms lately brought from *Long-Island*, as are or may be fit for service, or so many of them as Colonel *Dayton* may desire.

That 30,000 Dollars be advanced to *Thomas Lowrey* on account; and that he be fully authorized to procure all necessaries (except arms) ordered by Congress, for the three Battalions raised or to be raised in the Colony of *New-Jersey*.

That the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey* be allowed from the Continental Stock, half a ton of powder, out of which they are to re-pay what has been borrowed from *Elizabeth-Town*, *Somerset*, *Woodbridge*, and *Brunswick*.

That to the same Convention or Committee of Safety be advanced the further Sum of 5000 Dollars for the Purpose of completing the three Battalions there with Arms, which they are desired to accomplish with all possible expedition.

*Resolved,*

That two tons of the Powder belonging to the Continent be delivered to the Delegates of *Virginia* for the Use of the Forces in that Colony.

Sundry

Sundry letters by Colonel *Ritzema* being received <sup>Feb. 15.</sup>  
ed were read, viz.

One from General *Lee* dated the 11th, and one from General *Schuyler* of the 4th of this Month, with one from General *Wooster* of the 27th *January*.

*Resolved,*

That the said Letters be referred to the Committee to whom the Letters received yesterday were referred, and that the said Committee be directed to confer with Colonel *Ritzema*, and report to Congress.

Information being received that General *Clinton* was gone from *New-York*, the Congress came to the following Resolution :

The Congress have a proper Sense of the Spirit and Patriotism of the Associators of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, in cheerfully offering and preparing to march, in order to assist in the Defence of *New-York*; but as the Danger, which occasioned an Application for their service, is at present over;

*Resolved,*

That their march to *New-York* be suspended.

*Resolved,*

That a Paymaster be appointed for the Troops in *Virginia*, and that his pay be 50 Dollars, *per Month*.

The

## 38 JOURNALS OF CONGRESS,

*Feb. 15.* The Congress then proceeded to the Election, and *Benjamin Harrison, jun. of Berkley* was chosen.

The Congress taking into consideration the Report of the Committee of Correspondence,

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three, (two of whom to be Members of Congress) be appointed to repair to *Canada*, there to pursue such Instructions as shall be given them by Congress.

The Members chosen, *Dr. Benjamin Franklin, Mr. S. Chase,* and *Mr. C. Carroll of Carrollton.*

*Resolved,*

That *Mr. Carroll* be requested to prevail on *Mr. John Carroll* to accompany the Committee to *Canada*, to assist them in such matters as they shall think useful.

That this Congress will make Provision to defray any expences which may attend this measure.

*Resolved,*

That eight tons of Powder be immediately sent to *Canada*, for the Use of the Forces there.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Richard Smith* for provisions furnished by fundry persons in *New-York* Government to *Captain Ross's* Company of Rifle Men, the Sum of 28. 8. Dollars.

To

To *Michael Connolly* on account of expences in *Feb. 15.* bringing the Women and Children belonging to the 26th and 7th Regiment from *Esopus* to *Reading*, the Sum of 1082. 8. Dollars.

To *Colonel Simes* on account of expences in bringing the Baggage of the 26th and 7th Regiments from *Walpack* to *Lancaster* and several other small expences, the Sum of 569 Dollars.

To *Thomas M'Enry* for 800 Canteen Straps, the Sum of 133  $\frac{1}{3}$  Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee to whom the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-York* of the 3d of *January*, and the Letter from Governor *Trumbull* of the 6th of the same Month were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon

*Resolved,*

That no farther works be erected on *Martler's rock*, but that those already erected there be supported and garrisoned.

That a Fascine Battery to mount heavy Cannon, not exceeding eighteen in number, be thrown up on the *Gravel Hill* eastward of *Martler's rock*, marked in the draught LL, so as to command the West Point, the Reach down the River from the West Point, and part of the Reach up the River; and that a convenient Road be opened from this Battery to the Barracks on *Martler's rock*.

That a redoubt of earth and fascines be built on the Eminence on the East Side of the River opposite

Feb. 15. site to the West Point marked in the draught A to mount thirty Guns.

That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York* to forward the Battery at *Pooplopen's kill*; and that the said Battery be made of earth and fascines, and to mount a Number of Guns, not exceeding forty.

That such of the Continental Troops as are or may be stationed at the aforesaid Places, be employed in erecting these Works and Batteries under the Direction of the Engineer.

That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York* to prosecute the Discovery of the Lead Mine at *New Canaan*, and that a Copy of the Report of *Joseph Hopkins* to the General Assembly of *Connecticut* respecting this Mine be sent to them.

The Congress took into consideration the Report from the Committee of the whole House, and after debate

*Resolved,*

That the same be re-committed.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will to-morrow morning resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Propriety of opening the Ports, and the Restrictions and Regulations of the Trade of these Colonies after the first of March next.

*Resolved,*



*Resolved,**Feb. 15.*

That the Committee on ways and means to procure Cannon, be directed to enquire what quantity of Brasses can be procured, and that they be empowered to contract for the same.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *February 16, 1776.*

*Resolved,**Feb. 16.*

That the Secret Committee be directed to furnish Colonel *St. Clair's* Battalion with Arms, and that the President write to Colonel *St. Clair*, and direct him to use the utmost Diligence in getting his Battalion ready, and to march the Companies, one at a time, as fast as they can be got ready, to *Canada* with all possible expedition.

The Committee appointed to make an estimate of the Cannon wanted, for the Defence of the Colonies, and to devise ways and means for procuring them, &c. brought in their report, which was read, and ordered to lie on the Table.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the Ports, and the restrictions and regulations of the Trade of these Colonies after the first of *March* next, and after some time the President resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter re-

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ferred

*Feb. 16.* ferred to them, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will, to-morrow morning resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the propriety of opening the Ports, and the restrictions and regulations of Trade after the first of *March* next.

The Committee to whom General *Washington* and General *Schuyler's* Letters were referred, laid their report on the Table.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY *February 17, 1776.*

*Feb. 17.* *Resolved,*

That an order for ten thousand Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *James Mease*, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, he to be accountable.

That Colonel *James Irvine*, of the sixth *Pennsylvania* Battalion, be authorized and impowered to purchase good Arms for the use of his Battalion, the price of the same to be deducted out of the pay of the Men.

The Committee on the state of the Treasury brought in a report which was read.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

*Feb. 17.*

That a standing Committee of Five be appointed for superintending the Treasury.

That it be the business of this Committee,

To examine the accounts of the Treasurers, and from time to time report to Congress the state of the Treasury.

To consider of ways and means for supplying Gold and Silver for the support of the Army in *Canada*.

To employ and instruct proper Persons for liquidating the public Accounts, with the different Paymasters and Commissaries in the Continental service, and the Conventions, Committees of Safety and others who have been or shall be intrusted with the public Money, and from time to time to report the state of such accounts to Congress.

To superintend the emission of Bills of Credit.

To obtain from the different Assemblies and Conventions of the United Colonies, accounts of the number of Inhabitants in each Colony, according to the resolution of Congress on that subject.

The Members chosen, *Mr. Duane, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Smith and Mr. Willing.*

The

*Feb. 17.* The Congress taking into consideration the report of the Committee on the Treasury.

*Resolved,*

That a farther sum of four Millions of Dollars be emitted on the same security, as the sums heretofore emitted by Congress have been.

That the Committee for superintending the Treasury be directed to consider the numbers and denominations of the Bills, in which it will be proper to emit the above four Millions and report to Congress.

The Committee appointed to consider into what departments the middle and southern Colonies ought to be divided, brought in their report which was read.

The Committee to whom sundry Letters from Brigadier General *Arnold*, Brigadier General *Woolster*, Major General *Schuyler*, and Major General *Lee* were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That Major General *Lee* be directed immediately to repair to *Canada*, and take command of the Army of the United Colonies in that Province.

That Major General *Schuyler* be directed to repair, as soon as his health will permit, to *New-York*, and take the command of the forces and conduct the military operations there; and that the President inform him by express of this arrangement and the reasons that led to it.

That

That it be recommended to the Convention or <sup>Feb. 17.</sup> Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to supply General *Lee* with a quantity of suitable Cannon not exceeding twelve, and one or more Mortars, if to be had, with balls, shells, and other necessaries for the siege or assault of *Quebec*; and that they assist him in forwarding the same with all possible expedition.

That the regiment of *Canadians*, the raising of which is mentioned in Brigadier General *Arnold's* letter of the 12th of *January* last, to have been put on foot by him, receive the same pay and be subject to the same regulations as the other forces employed in *Canada*, and be accounted part of the number designed to be raised for that service.

That the appointment of Captain *Ransalier* to be deputy Muster Master General of the forces in *Canada*, be confirmed.

That the appointment of *John Halsted*, Esq; to be Commissary for the army before *Quebec*, be confirmed.

That Major General *Schuyler* be directed to have provisions stored in proper places near *Hudson's* river, between *Albany* and the *Highlands*, to supply such Troops as it may be necessary to call out of the country.

That the offer made by General *Schuyler* to pay at the rate of four shillings per day, for each of the sleds hired to forward the *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*

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*Feb. 17.* *Jersey* forces in their march to *Canada*, be complied with.

That the Officers in the Continental Armies be enjoined to use their utmost diligence in preventing every kind of plunder, and that all who shall offend herein be punished according to the strictest discipline.

That the resolves of Congress for encouraging Sutlers, to attend the army in *Canada*, be published with the information that, hosiery, shoes, coarse linens, soap, rum, sugar, and wine are much wanted there.

That a few Artificers such as armourers, smiths, carpenters, harness-makers and wheel-wrights, with proper persons to superintend them, be forthwith sent to *Canada*.

That it be recommended to the Convention of *New-York*, that such of the officers, who served faithfully in *Canada* the last Campaign, as are willing to continue there, be preferred in the new levies of the Colony of *New-York* to others.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be chosen to prepare instructions for the Committee appointed to go to *Canada*.

The Members elected, Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Wythe and Mr. Sherman.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

*Fb. 17-*

That this Congress will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the propriety of opening the Ports, and the restrictions and regulations of Trade, after the first of *March* next.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee appointed to purchase fundry articles of cloathing for the northern Army, be directed to contract for good strong shoes for the Army in *Canada*.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the Committee, on the method of subsisting the Troops in *New-York*, &c.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of thirty-five thousand Dollars, be advanced to the Convention, or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, for the support of the troops employed in the defence of that Colony; the said Convention or Committee of Safety, to be accountable for the expenditure thereof, and that an order be drawn on the Treasurers for the above sum, in favour of the Delegates of that Colony, who are directed to forward the same.

That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to contract with proper persons for supplying the said Troops with the rations allowed by Congress, and with fuel and other necessaries, on the most reasonable terms in their power.

The

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*Feb. 17.* The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

On an Account exhibited by the Committee of *Frederic County, Maryland*, to be paid to *S. Chase*, and *W. Paca*, Esqrs. the sum of 860.9 Dollars, of which 268.4 being for Rifles, &c. furnished Captain *Cressap's* Company of Riflemen, ought to be charged to the said Company, and the remainder to the Continent.

To *Nicholas Hower*, for Waggonage, the sum of 74.4. Dollars; and that the same ought to be paid to *Daniel Hower*.

*Ordered,*

That the above Accounts be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to *Monday*.

MONDAY, *February 19. 1776.*

*Feb. 19.*

Met according to adjournment, and having attended the Oration delivered in honour of General *Montgomery*, and of those Officers and Soldiers who magnanimously fought and fell with him, in maintaining the Principles of Liberty.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *February 20. 1776.*

*Feb. 20.*

The Convention of *New-Jersey* having made a new choice of Delegates to represent that Colony in Congress, three of said Delegates attending, produced their credentials, which were read as follows:

“ *In*



" In PROVINCIAL CONVENTION, *New-Jersey*, *Feb. 20.*  
*Brunswick*, 14th February, 1776. ~~~~~

*Resolved*, on motion, unanimously,

That *William Livingston*, *John De Hart*,  
*Richard Smith*, *John Cooper*, and *Jonathan Dickenson* *Sergeant*, Esquires, be Delegates to represent this Province in the Continental Congress, for the space of one Year, or until others shall be legally appointed in their stead, and that they or any three or more of them, have full and ample power to consent and agree to all measures which such Congress shall deem necessary; and this Province bind themselves to execute, to the utmost of their Power, all Resolutions which the said Congress may adopt. And further, if the said Congress shall think necessary to adjourn, we do authorise our said Delegates to represent and act for this Province, in any one Congress to be held by virtue of such adjournments, during their delegation.

*A true Copy from the Minutes,*

WILLIAM PATTERSON, *Secretary.*"

A Letter from General *Lee*, of the 17th instant, was read.

A Memorial from a number of the Inhabitants of *Northumberland*, in the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, with six Papers therein enclosed, was presented to Congress and read. Also,

A Petition from fundry Inhabitants near *Pittsburg*, was presented and read,

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*Resolved*,

Feb. 20. *Resolved,*

That the above Memorial and Petition be referred to a Committee of five:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *E. Rutledge*, and Mr. *Chafe*.

Lieutenant *Brasber*, who had the orders of General *Schuyler* to conduct a number of *Canadian* prisoners to *New Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*, having executed his orders, laid his instructions before Congress, which were read. Also Mr. *Shallus* Quarter-Master of the first *Pennsylvania* Battalion, having had orders to conduct certain Prisoners down from *Kingston*, and having executed his orders, laid his instructions before Congress, which were read,

*Resolved,*

That these be referred to the Committee on the Prisoners.

*Resolved,*

That the secret Committee be directed to deliver to Colonel *Maxwell*, or order, twenty stand of Arms for the use of his Battalion, he to be accountable for the same.

The Congress took into consideration the report of the Committee on the ways and means of procuring Cannon, whereupon

*Resolved,*

That two hundred and fifty, twelve pounders, sixty, nine pounders, and sixty-two, four pounders be purchased for the use of these Colonies.

That

That the Committee on the ways and means of *Feb. 20.*  
procuring Cannon be empowered to purchase or  
contract for making the same,

That a new Member be added to that Committee.

The Member chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston.*

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Michael Connolly*, expences for Waggon hire, carrying the Prisoners Baggage from *Bethlehem* to *Reading*, and his own expences four days, the sum of 160 Dollars.

To *Richard Howell*, for transportation of Powder to *Burlington*, the sum of  $34 \frac{1}{2}$  Dollars.

Ordered,

That the above Accounts be paid.

Resolved,

That Colonel *Wayne* be directed to march with his Battalion to *New-York*, and put himself under the command of General *Lee*, or the commanding Officer there.

The Congress being informed that two Prisoners taken at *Chambee*, and who had leave to stay at *Newark* in the Province of *New Jersey*, on condition of their making gun locks, for the use of the United Colonies, are not employed in that work.

Resolved,

That the said two Prisoners be ordered to *Philadelphia*, and put under the direction of Mr. *Rittenhouse*, to carry on the above business.

TH.

*Feb. 20.* The Congress being informed that a quantity of Powder belonging to the United Colonies was arrived at *Brunswick* in *New Jersey*.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Alsop*, and Mr. *P. Livingston* be directed to forward the said Powder under a guard, with all possible expedition, to General *Washington*, for the use of the Army under his command.

*Resolved,*

That an order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *Monf. La Junesse*, for the sum of 250 Dollars, for his services in behalf of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *February 21. 1776.*

*Feb. 21.* The Committee of Claims reported that there is due.

To *Shallus* for his expences in conducting Prisoners from *Albany* to *Trenton*, the sum of 17  $\frac{3}{4}$  Dollars.

To *Caspar Shaaf*, for Waggonage, the sum of 104 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *S. Chase*, and *W. Paca*, Esqrs.

*Ordered,*

That the said Accounts be paid.

Two Letters from General *Schuyler* of the 10th and 13th inst. being received were read.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,**Feb. 21.*

That the same be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *S. Adams*.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, of the 20th instant, respecting the Prisoners at *Lancaster*, was read,

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to the Committee on the Prisoners.

The Committee on the Treasury to whom it was referred to consider the numbers and denominations of the Bills, &c. brought in their report, which was considered and agreed to as follows.

That the four Millions of Dollars now to be emitted, consist of the following denominations.

|                                       |                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 600,000 of $\frac{1}{6}$ of a Dollar. | 100,000         |
| 600,000 of $\frac{1}{3}$ do.          | 200,000         |
| 600,000 of $\frac{1}{2}$ do.          | 300,000         |
| 600,000 of $\frac{2}{3}$ do.          | 400,000         |
| 130,436 of 1 Dollar.                  | 130,436         |
| 130,437 of 2 do.                      | 260,874         |
| 130,436 of 3 do.                      | 391,308         |
| 130,435 of 4 do.                      | 521,740         |
| 65,217 of 5 do.                       | 326,085         |
| 65,217 of 6 do.                       | 391,302         |
| 65,217 of 7 do.                       | 456,519         |
| 65,217 of 8 do.                       | 521,736         |
| <hr/> 3,182,612                       | <hr/> 4,000,000 |

*Feb. 21.* That the Plates engraved for the two former emissions, be used in the new emission of the Bills from one to eight Dollars inclusive, and that those Bills be expressed in the following Words.

N<sup>o</sup>.

Dollars.

This Bill entitles the Bearer to receive Spanish milled Dollars, or the value thereof in Gold or Silver, according to a Resolution of Congress, passed at *Philadelphia, February 17. 1776.*

That the said Bills be signed by two Signers, and each different denomination numbered from No. 1. progressively.

That one Plate with proper devices be engraved for the smaller Bills now to be emitted, under the value of one Dollar.

That the form of the Bills be as follows :

One of a Dollar, according to a Resolution of Congress passed at *Philadelphia, February 17. 1776.*

That each of these Bills be signed by one Signer only, and that each different denomination be numbered from No. 1. progressively, as aforesaid.

That *Michael Hillegas, Richard Bache, and Stephen Paschall*, Esqrs. be appointed and authorized to inspect the Press.

That before they enter upon their office, they shall

shall respectively take an oath or affirmation to be <sup>Feb. 21.</sup> administered to them by any Magistrate, "well and faithfully to execute the trust reposed in them by a resolution of Congress, as Inspectors of the Press, according to the best of their skill and judgment." A certificate of which oath or affirmation shall be delivered to the Committee on the Treasury.

That each of the said Inspectors respectively shall be allowed two Dollars a day for their services, while they shall be employed in inspecting the Press, in the execution of the said trust.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee on the Treasury be directed to have the foregoing Resolutions carried into execution with all convenient dispatch.

The Committee for receiving the applications for Officers in the Continental Army reported, that they have nominated Mr. *Lewis Durham* for Surgeon to the third Battalion now raising in the Colony of *New Jersey*, and recommend him to the Congress for appointment to the said office.

*Resolved,*

That the report be agreed to, and that a Commission be granted to Mr. *Lewis Durham* accordingly.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *February 22.* 1776.

Two Letters from General *Washington*, both of <sup>Feb. 22.</sup> the 9th of this Month, being received and read,

*Resolved,*

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*Feb. 22. Resolved,*

That the said Letters be referred to a Committee of the whole Congress.

Accordingly the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the Letters just received from General *Washington*, and after some time the President resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported that the Committee had taken into consideration the Letters referred to them, but not having come to a conclusion; desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will resolve itself into a Committee of the whole to take into their farther consideration the Letters from General *Washington*.

*Resolved,*

That the march of the *New Jersey* Battalion of Militia to *New York* be countermanded.

*Resolved,*

That orders issue to quicken Colonel *Wayne* in getting his Battalion ready; and that, as fast as he can get a Company properly equipped, he cause it immediately to march to *New York*.

*Resolved,*

That the President be directed to write to the Convention of *New York*, and desire them to inform Congress what progress they have made in raising the four Battalions recommended to be raised in that Colony for the defence of the same.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY,



F E B R U A R Y, 1776.

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FRIDAY, *February 23.* 1776.

*Feb. 23.*



Colonel *Braxton*, a Delegate from *Virginia*, attending produced the credentials of his appointment which were read, as follows :

*Virginia*, in CONVENTION, December 15. 1775.

The Convention, according to the order of the day, proceeded to the appointment of a Delegate to represent this Colony in the General Congress, in the room of the late honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esq. and the Members having prepared Tickets with the name of the Delegate to be appointed, and put the same into the Ballot-box, Mr. *Thomas Ludwell-Lee*, Mr. *Carrington*, Mr. *Digges*, Mr. *William Cabell*, and Mr. *Carter* of *Lancaster* were appointed a Committee to examine the Ballot-box, and report on whom the Majority fell, and it appearing from their report, that there was a Majority of the whole Convention in favour of *Carter Braxton*, Esq.

*Resolved*, therefore,

That the said *Carter Braxton*, Esq. be appointed a Delegate to represent this Colony in the room of the late honourable *Peyton Randolph*, Esq.

*A Copy,*

JOHN FAZEWELL, *Clerk of the Convention.*

*Resolved*,

That the Secret Committee be directed to return to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, the Arms borrowed of them for the use of the Continent.

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The

Feb. 23. The Committee of Claims reported that there is  
 due,

To *Francis Daimon*, for translating into *French* the Rules and articles for the better regulating the Continental Troops, the sum of  $13 \frac{1}{3}$  Dollars.

To *Monfr. Mesplet* for Printing the Military Rules, and *French* Letters to the Inhabitants of *Canada*, the sum of 44 Dollars.

To *Colonel Harrison*, for expences of himself, *Mr. Lynch*, and *Mr. Allen*, on their Journey to *New-York*, the sum of 150.9 Dollars.

To *Jeremiah Traxler*, for Provisions, &c. for *Indians* who were in *Philadelphia* in *December* last, the sum of 40.8 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Mr. Kachlein*.

To sundry Persons for Rifles furnished *Captain Morgan's* Company, the sum of 118.3 Dollars, which ought to be paid to *Colonel Nelson*, and charged to the said Company.

To *Clement Biddle*, for Shot-pouches, Powder-horns, and Bullet-moulds, purchased by him for the *Canada* Regiment, the sum of 1169.3 Dollars.

To sundry Persons for Blanket's supplied to *Captain Price's* company, the sum of 32.9 Dollars, and the same ought to be paid to *George Read*, Esq.

To *Captain Little*, for Provisions for Guards attending *Captain Campbell*, the sum of 9.5 Dollars.

To *Christian Rhorbeck* for necessaries furnished to several Prisoners of the 7th and 26th Regiments, the sum of 9.4 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Adam Kimmel*.

To

To *Henry Shits*, for Rifles, &c. furnished to Cap-<sup>Feb. 23.</sup>tain *Stephenson's* Company the sum of 77.6 Dollars, to be charged to the said Company.

To *Adam Ebraſber*, for attending ſeveral *French* Nobleſſe, from *Albany* to *Bristol*, the ſum of 32 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the above Accounts be paid.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of five be appointed to contract for the making of Muſkets and Bayonets for the uſe of the United Colonies, and to conſider of farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the Manufacture of fire-arms in all Parts of the United Colonies.

The Members choſen, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Wilſon*, Mr. *Huntington*, Mr. *Lee* and Mr. *Morris*.

*Resolved,*

That the letter of Mr. *Chriſtopher Liſſingwell*, dated the 29th of *November* 1775, with ſundry Papers relating to the Cargo of the Brig *Nancy*, be referred to a Committee of three.


The Members choſen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Huntington* and Mr. *Gerry*.

*Resolved,*

That the ſecret Committee be empowered for the purpoſe of procuring Arms and Ammunition, to export the produce of theſe Colonies, equal to the amount of that by them exported in two Veſſels lately taken by the enemy.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee, for ſuperintending the Treafury, be authoriſed to employ one or more  
Clerks

*Feb. 23.*  Clerks for stating, keeping, and liquidating the public Accounts under their direction, and to provide Books and a suitable Office for that purpose.

That they have power to call upon the different Committees of Congress, Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, or Committees of Safety, Continental Officers, and private Persons, who have been or shall be intrusted with public Money, for their accounts and vouchers, and for such other materials and information, as the said Committee on the Treasury shall judge to be useful, in stating, checking, and auditing the public Accounts.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, or Committees of Safety, and Committees of Correspondence and Inspection in the United Colonies, to exert themselves in devising farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the Manufacture of Salt-petre, and of introducing that Manufacture into private Families.

That it be recommended to the several Assemblies and Conventions in the United Colonies, that they immediately establish public Works in each and every County, in their respective Colonies, at the Expence of such Colonies, for the Manufacture of Salt-petre, and appoint Committees of their own Members immediately to set up such manufactures.

That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions, Councils, or Committees of Safety, of every Colony forthwith to erect Powder Mills in their respective Colonies, and appoint

point Committees to build such Mills, and procure persons well skilled in the Manufacture of Powder, at the Expence of such Colonies. *Feb. 23.*

That a Committee of this Congress to consist of one Member from each Colony be appointed to consider of further ways and means of promoting and encouraging the Manufactures of Salt-petre, Sulphur and Powder in these Colonies, and to correspond with the several Assemblies and Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety in the several Colonies, that Congress may be, from time to time, truly informed of the Progress made in these Manufactures.

The Members chosen, Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Paine, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Huntington, Mr. L. Morris, Mr. Sergeant, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Read, Mr. Paca, Mr. Braxton, Mr. Hewes, Mr. E. Rutledge and Mr. Bullock.

*Ordered,*

That the above Resolutions respecting Salt-petre &c. be published.

It being represented that Captain Harman has enlisted into his Company, and carried with him to Canada, thirteen Servants without the consent of their Masters.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to enquire into this matter, and to report to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Willing, Mr. Wythe. *Resolved,*

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*Feb. 23. Resolved,*

That this Congress will on *Monday* next resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Letters from General *Washington*, &c.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.

MONDAY, *February* 26, 1776.

*Feb. 26.*

A Letter from General *Lee*, dated 22d Instant, was read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *J. Adams*, and Mr. *L. Morris*.

*Resolved,*

That an order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Carpenter *Wharton* for the Sum of 6000 Dollars, he to be accountable.

A Petition from Lieutenant *Jocelyn Feltham* of the 26th Regiment, who was taken Prisoner at *Ticonderoga* was presented and read, praying for leave to go to *Europe* for the Recovery of his Health.

*Resolved,*

That the Prayer of his Petition be granted.

A Representation from the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City and Liberties of  
of

of *Philadelphia*, relative to Vessels loading with *Feb. 26.*  
produce for *Great-Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British West-Indies* was presented to Congress, and  
read, whereupon

*Resolved,*

That no vessel loading for *Great-Britain*,  
*Ireland*, or the *British West-Indies*, be permitted  
to sail until the further Order of Congress; and  
that it be recommended to the different Committees  
of Inspection and Observation to see that this  
resolution be carried into execution.

*Ordered,*

That the above Resolve be published.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of five be appointed  
to examine and report the Numbers and Circum-  
stances of the Permits, and the Destination of the  
Vessels, to which such permits have been granted,  
for exporting the Produce of the Colonies, in  
consequence of the Importation of Ammunition  
and Warlike Stores; and that the Representation  
of the Committee of Inspection and Observation  
for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* on this  
subject be referred to the said Committee.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Chase*,  
Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Livingston*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

A Letter from the Convention of *New-Jersey*,  
dated *February 24th* was read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to the Com-  
mittee to whom the Letter from General *Lee*, was  
this morning committed.

*Resolved,*

*Feb. 26. Resolved,*

That an order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of the Delegates of *Maryland* for the Sum of Twenty-two thousand Dollars, to be by them exchanged for Gold and Silver; and paid back into the Treasury.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *February 27, 1776.*

*Feb. 27. Resolved,*

That *Monf. Regonville* be permitted to go to *Bristol* and spend a Week with his Relations there, and that, after that, he return to *Philadelphia*.

*Resolved,*

That the Sum of 100 Dollars be paid to *Monf. Dugan* for his services in the Cause of the United Colonies in *Canada*, and that it be recommended to the Commanding Officer of the Forces of the United Colonies in that Province; to advance him to a Post in the Army suitable to his merit and services.

The Committee, to whom the Letters from *Christopher Lessingwell* and others concerning the Brigantine *Nancy* commanded by *Thomas Davis* and her Cargo were referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration.

*Resolved,*

That the case of the said Brigantine and Cargo, pertaineth to the Judicature established in the Colony of *Connecticut* for hearing and determining matters of the same kind.

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The Congress taking into consideration the Report of the Committee appointed to consider into what departments the middle and southern Colonies ought to be formed. Feb. 27.

*Resolved,*

That *New-York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, the Lower Counties on Delaware, and Maryland,* be put into one Department under the command of one Major General, and two Brigadiers General with proper Staff.

That *Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia* be put into one other Department, under the command of one Major General, and three Brigadiers General with proper Staff.

That *Friday* next be assigned for the election of the Majors General, Brigadiers General, and Staff Officers in the foregoing Departments.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the Convention of *New Jersey*, to have the Cargo of the transport *Blue Mountain Valley* landed, and secured in some safe place till further orders of Congress.

The order of the day being renewed:

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *February 28*, 1776:

*Resolved,*

That General *Lee* be directed not to proceed Feb. 28.

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*Feb. 28.* proceed to *Canada*, until he receive further orders from Congress.

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Lee* and the Convention of *New Jersey* were referred, brought in their report which was read.

*Resolved,*

That the consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

*Resolved,*

That the secret Committee be directed to repay to the Delegates of *North Carolina*, the four hundred weight of Powder borrowed of that Colony.

The Committee on Prisoners, to whom the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* was referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, and thereupon,

*Resolved,*

That the Committee of Inspection and Observation, for the County of *Berks* in *Pennsylvania*, be authorized and requested to contract upon reasonable terms for the subsistence of such of the Prisoners now in *Reading*, as are not supplied by Mr. *Franks*, together with the Women and Children belonging to all the Prisoners there, and for supplying them with fire-wood and other things absolutely necessary for their support.

That the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the Counties, Districts, or Towns assigned for the residence of Prisoners, be empowered to superintend their conduct, and in cases of gross misbehaviour

behaviour to confine them, and report to Congress the proceedings had on such occasions, Feb. 28.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, agreeable to the offer made by them of their service, of which Congress have a proper sense, be authorised to distribute the Officers, who are Prisoners in *Lancaster*, in such places within the province of *Pennsylvania*, as to that Committee shall seem most proper; taking their Parole, which if they refuse to give, the said Committee are empowered and directed to confine them; and that in executing this resolve, the said Committee have regard to the resolutions heretofore made by Congress, with respect to Prisoners and their residence.

A Petition of *Anthony Marmajou*, master and owner of the Brig *Little Polly* of the Island of *Martinique*, was presented to Congress and read, whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That Monsieur *Marmajou* be permitted to load the Brigantine *Little Polly*, with the produce of these Colonies (horned cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, and lumber for making casks excepted) and export the same to *Martinique*.

*Resolved,*

That an order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Mr. *J. Mease*, for the sum of twenty thousand Dollars, he to be accountable.

The

*Feb. 28.* The Committee, to whom the Letters from General *Schuyler*, dated the 10th and 13th of *February*, and the Papers therein mentioned were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That a sufficient quantity of Steel be sent to General *Schuyler*, or the commanding Officer at *Albany*, for the Armourers and the Blacksmiths who are appointed to go and work for the *Indians*, and that the Delegates of *New Jersey* be desired to provide and forward the same.

That an account of the Money paid to the *Pennsylvania* Troops, who have marched to *Canada*, be sent to General *Schuyler*.

That the Deputy Muster-Master General, *Gunning Bedford*, Esq; be directed to repair to his post forthwith in the northern Army in *Canada*, and that he muster the Troops once in every Month, and make returns to Congress and the commanding Officer.

That the orders given by General *Schuyler*, in his Letter of the 12th instant, to Lieut. Colonel *Warner* be approved.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *February 29, 1776.*

*Feb. 29.* The Colony of *New Hampshire* having appointed Delegates for the present year, *William Whipple*, Esq;

Esq; one of the said Delegates attended and produced the credentials of their appointment, which <sup>Feb. 29.</sup> were read as follows.

" *Colony of New Hampshire, in the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 23, 1776.*

" *Voted,*

That *Josiah Bartlett, John Langdon, and William Whipple*, Esqrs. be and hereby are appointed Delegates to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, for the term of one Year from this time, any one of them in the absence of the others to have full power to represent this Colony, and that not more than two of them attend at one time. *Sent up for concurrence.*

P. WHITE, *Speaker.*

IN COUNCIL, *eodem die.*

Read and concurred.

E. THOMPSON, *Secretary.*

*A true Copy from the Journal of Council.*

*Attest.*

E. THOMPSON, *Secretary."*

A Letter of the 14th from General *Washington*, inclosing a Letter from Lord *Drummond* to General *Robinson*, and sundry other Papers, was read.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress  
resolved

*Feb. 29.* resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the Letter from General *Washington* of the 9th instant, and the trade of the Colonies after the 1st of *March*, and after some time the President resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported that the Committee not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into farther consideration the Letter from General *Washington*, and the Trade of the Colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

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# J O U R N A L S

## O F

# C O N G R E S S.

FRIDAY, *March 1.* 1776.

**A** Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New Hampshire*, with a Petition from the *Mar. 1.* said Colony, and sundry other Papers were read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Braxton*, and Mr. *Franklin*.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of *Falmouth* being presented was read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *Read*, and Mr. *Pacá*.

A Letter from *J. Mease* Commissary, with sundry Queries to which he requests the answers of Congress, that he may know how to conduct in

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*Mar. 1.* the Business intrusted to him, was laid before Congress and read,

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *Hewes*.

A Memorial of the Merchants, Traders, and others, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to a Committee of the whole.

The General Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay* having transmitted to Congress a state of the Accounts of their Colony against the Continent.

*Resolved,*

That they be referred for liquidation to the Committee of Claims.

*Resolved,*

That an addition of thirty-four Dollars a month be added to the pay of *Joseph Read*, Esq. Secretary to General *Washington*, on Account of the extraordinary services at present attending that Office, by reason of the General's direction of the Naval Department.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will to morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the Letter of General *Washington* of the 14th, with the Papers enclosed.

*Resolved,*



*Resolved,*

*Mar. 1.*

That the Secret Committee be directed to treat with the owners of some Medicines lately imported, and to purchase the same on the most reasonable Terms for the use of the Continent.

*Resolved,*

That Major-General *Lee* be appointed to take the command of the Continental Forces in the Southern Department.

The Congress proceeded to the Election of six Brigadier-Generals, and the Ballots being delivered in and examined the following Gentlemen were chosen.

*John Armstrong, Esq.*

*William Thompson, Esq.*

*Andrew Lewis, Esq.*

*James Moore, Esq.*

The Right Honourable *William, Earl of Sterling.*

*Robert Howe, Esq.*

*Resolved,*

That Brigadier General *Armstrong* be directed to repair to *South-Carolina*, Brigadiers *Lewis* and *Howe* to *Virginia*, and Brigadier *Moore* to *North Carolina*, and to take the command of the Forces in those respective Colonies, until they receive further orders from Congress or a superior Officer.

*Resolved,*

That Brigadier General *Thompson* be directed to repair to *New-York*.

The orders of the day being postponed,

Adjourned

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.

MONDAY, *March 4. 1776.*

*Mar. 4. Resolved,*

That Mr. *Alsop* be appointed a Member of the Committee of Claims in the room of Mr. *Lewis* who is absent, and Mr. *Whipple* in the room of Mr. *Bartlett*, who desires to be excused from that service.

*Resolved,*

That in case of the absence of any standing Member of the Committee of Claims, the Delegates of the Colony to which he belongs, be impowered to nominate one of their number to act in the stead of the absent Member, till his return.

Sundry Letters and Papers were received and read, viz.

A Letter from the Convention of *New-York*, of 28th *February* inclosing a recommendation of Gentlemen for Field Officers of the four Battalions ordered to be raised in that Colony.

A Memorial from sundry Merchants of *Montreal*.

A Resolution of the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Accomac*.

Two Letters from Brigadier General *Wooster* of the 11th and 13th *February*, with seven Papers enclosed.

Two

Two from Brigadier General *Arnold*, of the 1<sup>st</sup> *Mar. 4.*  
and 12th of *February*.

Four from General *Schuyler* of the 15th, 20th,  
21th, and 23d of the same Month,

One from General *Lee* of the 29th,

One from the Convention of *New-Hampshire*,  
of the 8th.

And one from the Committee of Safety of *Penn-*  
*sylvania*.

*Resolved,*

That the Memorial from the Merchants  
of *Montreal*, be referred to a Committee of five.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *J. Adams*,  
Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *R. Morris*, and Mr. *Tilgh-*  
*man*.

That the Resolution from the Committee of  
*Accomac*, be referred to the Committee of the  
whole Congress.

That the Letters from Major Generals *Lee* and  
*Schuyler*, and from Brigadier Generals *Wooster* and  
*Arnold* be referred to the Committee appointed to  
prepare Instructions for the Commissioners to *Ca-*  
*nada*.

That the other Letters be referred for confide-  
ration till to-morrow.

The

*Mar. 4.* The Committee appointed to examine and report the Number and Circumstances of the Permits granted for exporting produce &c. brought in their report, which was taken into consideration whereupon

*Resolved,*

That the Restraint be taken off, which by a Resolve of the 26 of last Month was laid upon Vessels loading or loaded with Produce for *Great-Britain, Ireland* or the *British West-Indies* in consequence of permissions granted for Arms and Ammunition imported into these Colonies.

*Resolved,*

That the secret Committee be directed with all possible expedition to send, under a Guard, ten tons of Powder to *Cambridge* for the Use of the Army under the Command of General *Washington*.

The Committee to whom the Memorial from fundry Inhabitants of *Northumberland*, and the Petition from the Inhabitants near *Pittsburg* were referred, brought in their report, which was read.

*Ordered,*

To lie on the Table for the Perusal of the Members.

*Resolved,*

That Colonel *Beletre*, Major *Longueil*, and Captain *Lottiniere*, three of the *Canadian* Prisoners who are at *Bristol* in *Pennsylvania*, be permitted to come to *Philadelphia*, to confer with the Committee on Prisoners.

The Order of the Day being renewed.

Adjourned

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Mar. 4.

TUESDAY, March 5. 1776.

Two Letters from General Schuyler of the 26 & 27 February, with four papers inclosed, among which a Letter from James Deane to General Schuyler of the 24th of the same Month.

Mar. 5.

Resolved,

That the Letter from James Deane be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. W. Livingston.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Memorial from the Inhabitants of Northumberland, &c. whereupon

Resolved,

As the said Memorial relates merely to disputes between the Memorialists and other Inhabitants of said County, and to complaints against Justices of the Peace of the said county, and as the common Courts of Judicature, and especially the Legislature of the Colony of Pennsylvania are altogether competent for remedying the Grievances complained of, that the said Memorial with the Papers therewith delivered, be transmitted to the Assembly of said Colony.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Letter from General Washington of the 14th of February, and the Papers inclosed, and after some time,

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*Mar. 5.* time the President resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee have had under consideration the Letter and Papers to them referred, but have come to no resolution thereon.

*Resolved,*

That the Letter from General *Washington*, so far as it has not been considered by the Committee of the Whole, be referred to the Committee, to whom his other Letters of the 24 & 30th of *January* were referred.

The Order of the Day being renewed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *March 6. 1776.*

*Mar. 6.* A Letter from General *Washington* of the 26th *February* was read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to the Committee to whom his other Letters are referred.

A Letter from *J. Palmer* inclosing a Report of a Committee of the General Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay* respecting Lead, was read.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee appointed on the 31 of *July* last, to enquire in all the Colonies after Virgin-lead, Leaden-ore, and the best Method of collecting, smelting, and refining it, and also the cheapest and easiest Methods of making Salt in these Colonies, be discharged, and that the Business of the said Committee be referred to the Committee

mittee appointed on the 23 of *February* last, to *Mar.6.*  
consider of farther ways and means of promoting  
and encouraging the Manufacture of Salt-petre, &c.

*Resolved,*

That the Letter from *J. Palmer* with  
the inclosed Report be referred to the last mention-  
ed Committee.

A Letter from General *Washington* dated 18th  
and 21st of *February* last, inclosing the Proceed-  
ings of a Council of War was read.

*Resolved,*

That Brigadier-General *Thomas* be ap-  
pointed to command the Forces in *Canada*, and  
that General *Washington* be directed to order him  
immediately to repair to that Province.

*Resolved,*

That Brigadier-General *Thomas* be pro-  
moted to the Rank of a Major-General, and that  
a Commission be sent to him accordingly.

*Ordered,*

That the President acquaint General  
*Washington* by express of this arrangement.

*Resolved,*

As sundry Members of the Marine Com-  
mittee are absent, that their places be supplied by

Mr. *Huntingdon* for *Connecticut*.

Mr. *Sergeant* for *New-Jersey*.

Mr. *Harrison* for *Virginia*.

Mr. *E. Rutledge* for *South-Carolina*.

*Resolved,*

That the secret Committee be directed to  
send five Tons of Powder to *New-York* for the

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Use

*Mar. 6.* Use of the Continental Troops there, and five Tons of Powder to the Southern Department for the Use of the Troops in said Department.

That the said Committee be directed to return to the Colony of *Maryland* the Powder borrowed by Mr. *Harrison*, and to the Colony of *New-York* and to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* the Powder borrowed of them.

That the said Committee be directed to deliver to the Delegates of the *Delaware* Government one Ton of Powder, for which they are to be accountable, and to the Delegates of *New-Jersey* one ton of Powder, for which that Colony to be accountable.

*Resolved,*

That the President inform General *Schuyler*, that the Congress judge it necessary he should remain at *Albany* to make the proper Arrangements respecting the Army destined for *Canada* and therefore that he establish his head-quarters at *Albany* until further orders.

*Resolved,*

That *Thomas Bullet*, Esq; be appointed Deputy Adjutant General in the Southern Department, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to Colonel *Wayne* the Arms in their possession, for the use of his Battalion, retaining so many as will be necessary for the Guard that is to attend the Powder to *Cambridge*.

The



M A R C H, 1776.

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The order of the day being renewed.

Mar.6.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY *March 7, 1776.*

A Letter from General *Washington* of the 9th of *Mar.7.*  
*February*, and a Letter from General *Schuyler* of  
the 23d of the same month, were received and  
read.

*Resolved,*

That an order for one hundred thousand Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Delegates of *Connecticut*, in part of the Money advanced by said Colony on account of the Continent; and that the said Colony be desired to send forward their Accounts with proper Vouchers, in order for liquidation and payment.

The Congress being informed that *Isaac Melchior*, on the evening of *Saturday* last, treated the President of this Congress with great rudeness, and made use of several disrespectful and contemptuous expressions towards him and this Congress.

*Ordered,*

That the said *Isaac Melchior* attend the Congress to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock to answer for his conduct.

*Resolved,*

That *Edward Hand*, Esq; be promoted to be Colonel of the battalion of rifle-men in the  
Army

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*Mar. 7.* Army at *Cambridge*, and *James Chambers*, Esq; to be Lieutenant Colonel of the same.

That *William Winds*, Esq; be promoted to be Colonel of the first *New Jersey* Battalion, and that *Matthias Ogden*, Esq; be appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the same.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee on qualifications be directed to supply the first and third *New Jersey* Battalions with proper medicine chests and instruments.

A letter from Lord *Sterling*, with affidavits, relative to the capture of the *Amboy* Packet-boat, was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to the Committee to whom the letters from General *Washington* were referred.

The Committee, to whom the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New Hampshire* was referred, brought in their report which was read.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Hall* and *Sellers*, for printing the Continental Bills of Credit, the sum of 1735.4 Dollars.

To *Frederick Becking*, for 102 reams of Paper for the Continental Bills of Credit, the sum of 707.2 Dollars.

To the estate of *David Hall*, deceased, for stationary

tionary for the service of Congress, the sum of *Mar. 7.*  
50.6 Dollars.

To *Robert Erwin*, for twenty Cords of Wood, the sum of 80 Dollars.

To *Wallore Meng*, for Canteen Straps, the sum of 84.3 Dollars.

To *Jared Tracey*, for carrying Money from *Philadelphia* to *Cambridge*, the sum of 36 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Josiah Bartlett*, Esq.

To fundries on certificates for Provisions furnished several rifle companies, the sum of 35.3 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *John Alsop*, Esq.

To *Thomas Apt*y, for boarding several Prisoners taken from on board the *Rebecca* and *Ann*, the sum of 54.7 Dollars.

To *Robert Erwin*, for waggonage, the sum of 637.7 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the above Accounts be paid.

*Resolved,*

That to-morrow be assigned for electing the Field Officers of the four Batallions ordered to be raised in the Colony of *New-York*.

The order of the day being renewed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY

Mar. 8.

FRIDAY, March 8. 1776.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the Congress proceeded to the election of Field Officers of the four Battalions, ordered to be raised in the Colony of *New-York* for the defence of the said Colony, and the Ballots being taken, the following Gentlemen were chosen:

*Alexander M'Dougal*, Esq; Colonel of the 1st Battalion.

*Herman Zedwitz*, Esq; Lieutenant Colonel, do.

*Joseph Benedict*, Esq; Major, do.

*James Clinton*, Esq; Colonel of the 2d Battalion.

*Henry B. Livingston*, Esq; Lieutenant Colonel, do.

*Peter P. Schuyler*, Esq; Major, do.

*Frederick Wiefenfels*, Esq; Lieutenant Colonel of the 3d Battalion.

*John Fisher*, Esq; Major, do.

*Cornelius D. Wynkoop*, Esq; Colonel of the 4th Battalion.

*Philip Courtlandt*, Esq; Lieutenant Colonel, do.

*John Nicholson*, Esq; Major, do.

The Congress being informed that Mr. *Melchior* was attending agreeable to the order of yesterday;  
*Ordered,*

That he be called in.

Mr. *Melchior* appearing, the particulars of the charge were repeated to him, and on his assuring the House of his not remembering his having behaved with the disrespect mentioned, owing to the particular circumstances he happened to be under,  
and

and asking pardon of the Congress and President *Mar. 9*  
for his indecent behaviour,

*Ordered,*

That in consideration of Mr. *Melchior's* former services and his present concessions, he be dismissed from farther attendance.

The Committee to whom the Letters from Major General *Lee*, Major General *Schuyler*, Brigadier General *Wooster*, and Brigadier General *Arnold* were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That the Commissioners appointed to go to *Canada*, be desired to inquire into the cause of the imprisonment of the Officers of Militia in that Country and others, and take such measures in concert with the Commanding Officer of the Continental Forces there, for their enlargement or confinement, as are consistent with the principles of Justice and the safety of the United Colonies.

That the provisions made by General *Lee* and General *Schuyler* to supply the Army in *Canada* with pork, the direction given by General *Lee* to have Wheat ground into Flour for their use, and his contract with the company of Carpenters be approved; and that Mr. *Peter Zabriskie*, of *Hackinsack*, be employed to transport the Pork, to be procured in *New Jersey*, to *Hudson's River*, according to General *Schuyler's* desire.

That when the articles specified, in the rations allowed to the Prisoners of War, cannot be procured,

*Mar. 8.* cured, the Persons who supply them with other provisions be intitled to eight-pence, *New-York* currency, or  $\frac{1}{12}$  of a Dollar per day for every Prisoner.

That *Indians* be not employed as Soldiers in the Armies of the United Colonies, before the Tribes, to which they belong, shall in a National Council, held in the customary manner, have consented thereunto, nor then without exprefs approbation of Congress.

That General *Schuyler* be directed to provide such a number of Batteaus for the service in *Canada*, as shall be sufficient for it.

That General *Schuyler* be desired to purchase the Cloth, which Mr. *Henry* of *Albany* hath for Tents.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire and report the best ways and means of supplying the Army in *Canada* with provisions and necessaries.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Gerry*; Mr. *Wolcott*, and Mr. *L. Morris*:

*Resolved,*

That an Order for 10,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Committee appointed to contract for the making of Musquets, the said Committee to be accountable.

A Letter from Colonel *Hazen*, of the 18th of *Mar. 8.*  
*February* last, inclosing an account and estimate of  
 the Losses he has sustained, was received and read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to Mr.  
*Wythe*, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *Ward*, and Mr. *S. Adams*,  
 who are directed to examine the said account, and  
 report upon the several Articles.

A Letter from Governor *Trumbull*, of the 2d,  
 and a Letter from General *Lee*, of the 5th, being  
 received were read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *March 9.* 1776.

*Resolved,*

That a Letter be written to General *Washington*, desiring him to send Captain *Connor*  
 of the Rifle Battalion to *Philadelphia*, the Congress  
 having occasion to employ him in the Southern  
 Department. *Mar. 9.*

The Committee appointed to prepare Instruc-  
 tions for the Commissioners going to *Canada*,  
 brought in a draught which was read,

*Ordered,*

To lie on the Table for the perusal of  
 the Members.

Two Petitions, one from *Stephen Decatur*, Master  
 of the Schooner *L'Esperience*, and one from *John*  
*Baptisto Hugonence*, Master of the *Tartar* the

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*Marc*

*Mar. 9.* *Marc Anthony*, were presented to Congress and read, praying leave to export certain species of Produce, on conditions specified in their Petitions.

*Resolved,*

That the Prayer of said Petitions be granted.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the state of the Colonies in the Southern Department.

The Members chosen, *Mr. Johnson*, *Mr. Jay*, *Mr. J. Adams*, *Mr. Sergeant*, and *Mr. Sherman*.

*Resolved,*

That the following Gentlemen be appointed and authorized to sign and number the Bills of Credit of four Millions of Dollars, now emitting, *viz.*

*Samuel Morris*, *John Kaighn*, *Nicholas Garrison*,  
*Joseph Watkins*, *Anthony Morris*, *Frederic Kuhl*,  
*Matthew Clarkson*, *John Ord*, *William Webb*, *Isaac*  
*Hazlehurst*, *Thomas Morris*, *Mordecai Lewis*, *Cornelius Barnes*, *Jonathan B. Smith*, *Robert Tuckniss*,  
*Thomas Coombe*, *Daniel Clymer*, *George Campbell*,  
*Joseph Parker*, *Robert Evans*, *Adam Hubly*, *Joel*  
*Evans*, *John Mease*, *John Purviance*, *Robert Hazle-*  
*hurst*, *Walter Shee*, *Joseph Redman*, *Phineas Bond*,  
*William Masters*, *John Salter*, *John Howard*, *Thomas*  
*Leech*, *Thomas Smith*, *Philip Kinsey*, *Robert Roberts*,  
*Isaac Howell*, *James Milligan*, *Tench Tilghman*,  
*Joseph Bullock*, *David Duncan*, *John Shaw*, *Jun.*  
*James Johnson*, *Benjamin Brannan*, *Samuel Sellers*,  
*Isaac Pearson*, *John Sellers*, *Benjamin Jacobs*, *Israel*  
*Wheeler*,



*Wheeler, Josiah Hewes, Andrew Tybout, George Mar. 9.  
Douglass, Peter Stretch, Samuel C. Morris, Samuel  
Hillegas, Nathan Sellers, George Gray, Jun. James  
Asb, Samuel Massey, John Williams, and William  
Coats.*

*Resolved,*

That before the Signers enter upon their Office, they shall respectively take an Oath or Affirmation before any Magistrate, which shall be filed with the Committee of Treasury, to the following effect; that they shall well and truly sign and number all the Bills to be delivered to them by the Inspectors of the Press appointed by the Congress, and the same so signed and numbered, shall deliver or cause to be delivered to the Continental Treasurers, or one of them.

And for avoiding the dangers from Fire, Robbery, or Negligence.

*Resolved,*

That the Inspectors of the Press shall not deliver to any Class of Signers more than two Parcels of two hundred Sheets each, to be in their hands at any one time.

*Resolved,*

That no Oath by way of Test be imposed upon, exacted, or required of any of the Inhabitants of these Colonies, by any Military Officers.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver one Ton of Powder to the Delegates of *Maryland*, for the public Service in that Colony.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday* next.

MONDAY, *March* 11, 1776.

*Ma. 11.* A Letter from Lord *Sterling* of the 8th inclosing three Papers ; and,

A Letter of the Convention of *New-York* of the 7th, inclosing an application from *Patrick Sinclair*, a Prisoner for leave to return to *Europe*, were laid before Congress and read.

The Congress taking into consideration the Letter from the Convention of *New-York*, and the application of Mr. *Sinclair*.

*Resolved,*

That *Patrick Sinclair* be allowed to return to *Europe*.

*Resolved,*

That an order for 2500 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. *Alsop*, Mr. *Lewis*, and Mr. *Sherman* to enable them to pay for the Shoes purchased by them for the Northern Army.


*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to confer with General *Lee*, respecting the ways and means of defending *New-York*.

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. Lee*, Mr. *Whipple*, and Mr. *Rutledge*.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To

To *Benjamin Town*, for 789 Canteens, the sum of *Ma. 11.*  
341.9 Dollars. 

*Ordered,*

That the same be paid.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee on qualifications be directed to provide six Medicine Chests for the six *Virginia* Battalions.

The Congress took into consideration the Instructions to the Commissioners going to *Canada*, and having spent some time thereon,

*Resolved,*

That the farther consideration thereof be postponed till to morrow.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to morrow.

TUESDAY, *March 12.* 1776.

*Resolved,*

That an order for 20,000 Dollars be *Ma. 12.*  
drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *James Mease*  
Commissary, he to be accountable.

A Petition from *Edmund Custis*, and a Letter from the Committees of *Accomac* and *Northampton*, were presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to the Committee of the whole Congress.

A Letter

*Ma. 11.* A Letter from fundry Inhabitants of *Westmore-*  
*land*, of the 6th instant, was read.

*Ordered to lie on the Table.*

A Petition from Dr. *Hall Jackson*, was presented to Congress and read.

*Ordered to lie on the Table.*

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the Instructions to the Commissioners going to *Canada*, and after some time spent thereon.

*Resolved,*

That the farther consideration thereof be postponed till to morrow.

The Committee to whom the Letter from Colonel *Moses Hazen*, and the report of Persons appointed to state the Account of losses and damages sustained by him in *Canada* were referred, brought in their report, which was read as follows.

“ It appears to your Committee that the loss and damage sustained by Colonel *Hazen* in *Canada*, have not been estimated with sufficient accuracy; that some of the articles enumerated in the Inventory are presumed to be over-rated, the quantities of several others reducible to exactness in number, weight, or measure, are not ascertained, and the reasons for the knowledge or belief of any of them by the witnesses, are not explicit enough in their examinations; that although the grain, grass, and hay mentioned in the Account are admitted by Col.

*Hazen,*

*Hazen*, in his Letter, to have been partly destroyed *Ma. 12.*  
 by the Ministerial Troops; the whole value is extended; that the estimates of the Crops are so general, it cannot be discovered by what rule they were formed, or to what standard adjusted; that the damage done to the Dwelling-house, Stone-house, Out-houses, Barn, and Farms, are not particularised or specified; that a considerable part of what a re-imbursment is claimed for, is Household-Furniture, Wearing-Apparel, Tools, Utensils, Cables and Anchors, suggested to have been plundered by the Troops of the United Colonies and Canadians, who joined them; and your Committee believe that no reparation of the like kind hath yet been made by Congress; and that the profit which might have been made of the Mills and Houses, if the Owner had not been deprived of the use of them, being merely contingent and conjectural, are such as have not usually been made good in similar cases." Whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That the Commissioners who are going to *Canada* be desired to appoint proper Persons to examine, state, and settle an Account of the loss and damage Colonel *Hazen* hath sustained in his Property and Possessions in *Canada*, by the Forces of the United Colonies, and report the same, with any special matters they may think fit, to Congress; annexing to their reports, the estimates, examinations of the witnesses, and other Papers relative thereto.

*Resolved,*

That if any of the Gentlemen appointed Field Officers in the four Battalions raising in  
*New York,*

*Ma. 12.* *New-York*, for the defence of that Colony, are provided for in *Canada*, they be directed to continue there, exercising the Offices to which they are appointed, and that others be elected in their room in the four Battalions aforesaid; and that such of them as are not provided for in *Canada*, be directed immediately to repair to their respective Battalions.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *March 13. 1776.*

*Ma. 13.* A Letter from the Committee of *Essex* in *New Jersey*, of the 7th, and a Letter from Captain *J. Macpherson* of the 12th were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved,*

That an order for 1000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *Samuel Fairlamb*, Contractor for supplying Col. *Wayne's* Battalion with Rations, he to be accountable.

*Resolved,*

That the Bills drawn by the Treasurers of *North-Carolina*, for the use of the Continental Troops in that Colony be paid.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the Colony of *Maryland* with 500 lb. of Powder, for the use of Inhabitants of *Cecil County*.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of seven be appointed

ed to inquire and report the best ways and means <sup>Ma. 13.</sup> of raising the necessary supplies to defray the expences of the War for the present Year, over and above the emission of Bills of Credit.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Ward*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To fundries, for expences incurred at the Oration in Memory of General *Montgomery*, the sum of 94.3 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Dr. *Franklin*.

*Ordered,*

That the same be paid.

The Committee to whom the Memorial from the Indian Traders at *Montreal* was referred, brought in their report.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the Memorial from the Merchants, Traders, and others, Inhabitants of *Philadelphia*, the Memorial of *Edmund Guffis*, the Letters from the Committees of *Accomac* and *Northampton*, the Letters from General *Washington*, and the State of the Trade of the United Colonies, and after some time the President resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Ward* reported that the Committee have had under consideration the matters referred to them, but not having come

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to

*Ma. 13.* to any resolution desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the matters heretofore referred to them.

*Mr. W. Livingston* moved for leave to bring in a resolution for appointing a Fast, which was granted.

*Resolved,*

That the Marine Committee be empowered to purchase the armed Vessel now in the river *Delaware*, on the most reasonable Terms, for the service of the Continent, and that her destination be left to said Committee.

*Resolved,*

That the expences of the Horses of Aids de Camp, when travelling in the public service, be charged to the account of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *March 14*, 1776.

*Ma. 14.* The Committee appointed to confer with General *Lee* respecting the defence of *New York*, brought in their report which was read. Whereupon

*Resolved,*

That eight thousand Men be ordered for the defence of the Colony of *New York*.

*Resolved,*

That Orders issue to Colonel *Irwine*,  
Colonel



Colonel *Shee*, and Colonel *Magaw*, of the *Penn-Ma. 14. sylvania* Troops, and to Colonel *Dayton* of the *New Jersey* Troops, to march immediately with their respective Battalions to *New York*, and put themselves under the direction of the Commanding Officer there.

A Letter from General *Prescot* of the 14th, was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee on Prisoners be directed to confer with General *Prescot* on the subject of his Letter and report to Congress.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees or Councils of Safety, of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all Persons to be disarmed within their respective Colonies, who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of America, or who have not Associated, and shall refuse to Associate to defend by Arms these United Colonies against the hostile Attempts of the *British* Fleets and Armies; and to apply the Arms taken from such Persons in each respective Colony, in the first place, to the arming the Continental Troops raised in said Colony, in the next, to the arming such Troops as are raised by the Colony for its own defence, and the residue to be applied to the arming the Associators; that the Arms when taken be appraised by indifferent Persons, and such as are applied to the arming the Continental Troops be paid for by Congress, and the residue by the respective Assemblies,

100 JOURNALS OF CONGRESS.

*Ma. 14.* blies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety :

*Ordered,*

That a Copy of the foregoing Resolution be transmitted by the Delegates of each Colony to their respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *William Hencher*, for Waggon-hire in conveying Captain *Stevenson's* Baggage, &c. to *Cambridge*, the sum of 58.3 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Moses Hunter*.

To *Rachel Stille*, for boarding several Officers Prisoners to the 8th of *March* instant, the sum of 224.7 Dollars.

To *Joseph Fineur*, for five hundred and eleven Tin Cartridge Boxes, the sum of 221.4 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the above Accounts be paid.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *March 15.* 1776.

*Ma. 15.* Sundry Letters being received were laid before Congress and read, viz.

One from General *Washington* of the 7th, with  
two

two Papers inclosed, with a number of intercepted Letters. *Ma. 15.*

Two from Lord *Sterling* of the 12th and 13th.

One from Lieutenant-Colonel *Allen* of the 13th.

One from the Convention of *New York*; and,

One from General *Schuyler* of the 6th.

*Resolved,*

That the expences of the Horses of General Officers, when travelling in the service of the Continent, be defrayed by the United Colonies.

*Resolved,*

That four Muskets and Bayonets be lent to the Delegates of *Virginia*, for the use of the Guards that accompany the Powder sent to that Colony.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the state of *New York*, and after some time the President resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported that the Committee have come to certain resolutions, which they directed him to lay before Congress, which being done.

*Resolved,*

That Captain *Nelson* with his Rifle Company be directed immediately to repair to *New York*.

*Resolved,*

That the Governor of *Connecticut*, the Conventions or Councils or Committees of Safety of

*Ma. 15.* of *New York* and *New Jersey* be requested to hold their Militia in readiness to march in such numbers and at such times for the defence of *New York*, as the Continental Commander at *New York* shall desire; and that the Pay of the Militias called to the defence of *New-York* be the same as that of the Continental Troops raised and employed in the Middle Department, to commence from the time they begin their march.

*Resolved,*

That Lord *Sterling* be directed to order the Troops destined for *Canada* to proceed on their march, agreeable to their former orders.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *March 16, 1776.*

*Ma. 16.* A Letter from Lord *Sterling* of the 14th, inclosing a Copy of general orders for the defence of *New York* was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That a Letter be written to Lord *Sterling*, directing him immediately to send forward the Powder destined for *Cambridge*, unless he has received express advice from General *Washington*, that the enemy's fleet and army have sailed out of the harbour of *Boston*.

*Resolved,*

That the Account of Mr. *Price* of *Canada* be referred to the Committee of Claims.

A Petition

A Petition from *Coquataginta* or Captain *White* Ma. 16.  
*Eyes*, was presented to Congress and read,

*Resolved*,

That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *L. Morris*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *R. H. Lee*.

*Resolved*,

That Captain *Duncan Campbell*, a Prisoner at *Lancaster*, be permitted to come to *Philadelphia* to meet his Wife and Children, and there reside till further orders.

Mr. *W. Livingston*, pursuant to leave granted, brought in a resolution for appointing a Fast, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows :

In times of impending Calamity and Distress; when the Liberties of *America* are imminently endangered by the secret Machinations and open Assaults of an insidious and vindictive Administration, it becomes the indispensable Duty of these, hitherto free and happy Colonies, with true Penitence of Heart, and the most reverent Devotion, publicly to acknowledge the over-ruling Providence of God : to confess and deplore our Offences against him ; and to supplicate his interposition for averting the threatened Danger, and prospering our strenuous Efforts in the cause of Freedom, Virtue, and Posterity.

The Congress, therefore, considering the war-like

*Ma. 16.* like Preparations of the *British* Ministry to subvert our invaluable Rights and Privileges, and to reduce us by Fire and Sword, by the Savages of the Wilderness, and our own Domesticks, to the most abject and ignominious Bondage: Desirous, at the same time, to have People of all Ranks and Degrees, duly impressed with a solemn Sense of God's superintending Providence, and of their Duty, devoutly to rely in all their lawful Enterprizes on his Aid and Direction-----do earnestly recommend, that *Friday*, the 17th Day of *May* next, be observed by the said Colonies as a Day of Humiliation, Fasting, and Prayer; that we may with united Hearts confess and bewail our manifold Sins and Transgressions, and by a sincere Repentance and Amendment of Life, appease his righteous Displeasure, and through the Merits and Mediation of JESUS CHRIST, obtain his Pardon and Forgiveness; humbly imploring his Assistance to frustrate the cruel Purposes of our unnatural Enemies; and by inclining their Hearts to Justice and Benevolence, prevent the further Effusion of kindred Blood. But if, continuing Deaf to the Voice of Reason and Humanity, and inflexibly Bent on Desolation and War, they constrain us to repel their hostile Invasions by open resistance, that it may please the LORD of Hosts, the GOD of Armies, to Animate our Officers and Soldiers with invincible Fortitude, to guard and protect them in the Day of Battle, and to Crown the Continental Arms by Sea and Land with Victory and Success: Earnestly beseeching him to bless our Civil Rulers, and the Representatives of the People, in their several Assemblies and Conventions; to preserve and strengthen

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en their Union, to inspire them with an ardent dis-<sup>Ma. 16.</sup>  
 interested Love of their Country; to give Wisdom  
 and stability to their Councils; and direct them  
 to the most efficacious Measures for establishing the  
 Rights of *America* on the most honourable and  
 permanent Basis----that he would be graciously  
 pleased to bless all his People in these Colonies  
 with Health and Plenty, and grant that a Spirit of  
 incorruptible Patriotism, and of pure undefiled Re-  
 ligion, may universally prevail; and this Continent  
 be speedily restored to the Blessings of Peace and  
 Liberty, and enabled to transmit them inviolate to  
 the latest Posterity. And it is recommended to  
 Christians of all Denominations to assemble for  
 public Worship, and abstain from servile Labour  
 on the said Day.

*Resolved,*

That another Brigadier General be  
 appointed in the Continental Army.

The Ballots being taken and examined,

The Baron *de Woedtke* was elected.

*Resolved,*

That *Frederic William*, Baron *de Woedtke*,  
 appointed Brigadier General in the Army of the  
 United Colonies, be ordered immediately to repair  
 to *New York*, there to remain until the Commis-  
 sioners appointed to go into *Canada* shall reach that  
 Colony: and that he be directed to join and accom-  
 pany them into *Canada*, and there serve under the  
 Commander of the Continental Troops in that  
 Province.

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*Resolved,*

*Ma. 16. Resolved,*

That *Carpenter Wharton* continue, agreeable to his contract, to supply with rations the *Pennsylvania* Battalions serving in *New York*.

A Petition from *Joseph Blewer*, and *Daniel Robinson* was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to a Committee of the whole Congress.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the Memorial from the Merchants, Traders, and others, Inhabitants of *Philadelphia*, the Memorial from *Edmund Custis*, and the Letters from the Committees of *Accomac* and *Northampton*, and the Petition from *Joseph Blewer* and *Daniel Robinson*, &c. And after some time the President resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported that the Committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred, but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will on *Monday* next resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the matters referred to them.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.

MONDAY



M A R C H, 1776.

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MONDAY, *March* 18. 1776.

*Ma.* 18.  
—

*Resolved,*

That the Treasurers be directed to lay on the Table an account of the Silver and Gold Coin in the Treasury.

*Resolved,*

That *Monf. Arundel* be directed to repair to the Southern Department, and put himself under the command of *General Lee*; and that *General Lee*, if he find him capable, be directed to employ him in the Artillery service.

*Resolved,*

That an order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *Mr. James Mease*, to be applied to the procuring necessaries, and to the payment of the subsistence of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions; and that the Colonels be directed to account with *Mr. Mease* for the several sums advanced to them.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole to take into their farther consideration the Memorial from the Merchants, Traders, and others, Inhabitants of *Philadelphia*, the Memorial of *Edmund Custis*, the Letters from the Committees of *Accomac* and *Northampton*, and the Petition of *Joseph Blewer* and *Daniel Robinson*, and after some time the President resumed the Chair, and *Mr. Harrison* reported that the Committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred, and have come to fundry resolutions, but that not having concluded, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Mr.*

*Ma. 18.* Mr. *Henry* not having accepted the Commission of Colonel, the Congress proceeded to the election of a Colonel for the first *Virginia* Battalion, and the Ballots being taken,

*William Christian*, Esq. formerly Lieutenant-Colonel in said Battalion, was elected Colonel; and,

*Francis Eppes*, Esq. formerly Major, was elected Lieutenant-Colonel; and,

*John Green*, Esq. was elected Major.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will to-morrow again resolve itself into a Committee of the whole to take into their farther consideration the matters referred to them.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to morrow.

TUESDAY, *March 19. 1776.*

*Resolved,*

That *Monf. Dobicky Arundel* be appointed a Captain of Artillery in the Continental service.

That General *Lee* be directed to set on foot the raising a Company of Artillery, and that it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, to appoint the other officers of the said Company of Artillery.

A Letter of the 15th from Colonel *Dayton* was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

*Ma. 19.*

That it be referred to the Committee  
for procuring Muskets.

A Letter of the 17th from the Convention of  
*New-Jersey* was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That Captain *Woolverton* with his Company be taken into the service of the United Colonies; and that he be directed to repair with his Company as soon as properly armed and accoutered, to *New York*, and put himself under the Commanding Officer there; and that the pay of Captain *Woolverton's* Company commence from the time they are provided with Arms and Accoutrements.

A Letter from Colonel *Beletre*, a *Canadian* Prisoner, and sundry Letters from *Cameron* and *Smith* were read.

*Resolved,*

That they be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed to supply Captain *Barry* of the Brig *Lexington* with one Ton of Powder.

*Ordered,*

That the Committee, to whom was referred the state and situation of the Prisoners at *Trenton*, report thereon as soon as possible.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 250,000 Dollars be sent to the Pay-Master General, for the use of the Army under the immediate command of General *Washington*.  
That

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*Ma. 19.* That the sum of 50,000 Dollars be sent to General *Schuyler*, for the use of the Army under his command.

The Committee appointed to prepare Instructions to the Commissioners going to *Canada*, brought in a draught of farther Instructions, and of a Commission, which was read.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into their farther consideration the Memorial from the Merchants, Traders, and others, Inhabitants of *Philadelphia*, the Memorial from *Edmund Custis*, the Letters from the Committees of *Accomac* and *Northampton*, and the Petition of *Joseph Blewer* and *Daniel Robinson*, and after some time the President resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported that the Committee have had under consideration the Matters to them referred, and have come to fundry resolutions, which they directed him to lay before Congress.

The report of the Committee being read,  
*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to draw a Declaration pursuant to said report, and lay the same before Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

*Resolved,*

That it be an Instruction to said Committee to receive and insert a clause or clauses, that

that " all Seamen and Mariners on board of Merchant Ships and Vessels, taken and condemned as Prizes, shall be intitled to their Pay, according to the terms of their Contract, until the time of condemnation. *Ma. 19.*

The Committee to whom the Letter and Queries of Mr. *Mease* were referred, brought in their report which was read.

*Ordered to lie on the Table.*

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *Whipple* be appointed a Member of the Marine Committee, and of the Committee for receiving the applications and examining the qualifications of Gentlemen applying for Offices in the Continental service.

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Washington* of the 14th and 26th *February* last, and the Letter from Lord *Sterling* of the same Month were referred, brought in their report, which was read, and the same being taken into consideration,

*Resolved,*

That the first part thereof be re-committed.

*Resolved,*

That the value of the passage Boat, *York*, be made good to *Michael Kearney, Jun.* the owner thereof; it appearing that he was impressed into the Continental service, and employed in taking the Ship *Blue-Mountain Valley*, and for that reason afterwards seized and detained by order of Captain *Parker*, Commander of the *British* Ship

112 JOURNALS OF CONGRESS.

*Ma. 19.* Ship of War, *Phenix*; and that Lord *Sterling* be desired to appoint proper persons to Value said Boat, and report such valuation to Congress.

*Resolved,*

That a Member be elected for the Secret Committee in the room of Mr. *Bartlett*, who is absent.

The Ballots being taken.

Mr. *R. H. Lee* was elected.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *March 20, 1776.*

*Ma. 20.* A Letter from Lord *Sterling* of the 16th, was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That three Members be elected for the Committee appointed to consider the propriety of a War-Office in the room of three, who are necessarily absent.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, and Mr. *Johnson*.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 3000 Dollars be advanced to Colonel *Magaw* for the purpose of purchasing Fire Arms for his Battalion, he to be accountable.

*Resolved,*

The Congress resumed the consideration of the *Ma. 20.*  
 Instructions and Commission to the Deputies or  
 Commissioners going to *Canada*, and the same be-  
 ing debated by Paragraphs, were agreed to, as  
 follows :

### INSTRUCTIONS, &c.

*Gentlemen,*

YOU are with all convenient dispatch  
 to repair to *Canada*, and make known to the Peo-  
 ple of that Country, the wishes and intentions of  
 the Congress with respect to them.

Represent to them that the Arms of the United  
 Colonies having been carried into that Province  
 for the purpose of frustrating the designs of the  
*British* Court against our common Liberties, we  
 expect not only to defeat the hostile machinations  
 of Governor *Carlton* against us, but that we shall  
 put it into the power of our *Canadian* Brethren to  
 pursue such measures for securing their own free-  
 dom and happiness, as a generous love of Liberty  
 and sound Policy shall dictate to them.

Inform them, that in our judgment their Inter-  
 ests and ours are inseparably united ; that it is  
 impossible we can be reduced to a servile submission  
 to *Great Britain* without their sharing our fate :  
 and, on the other hand, if we shall obtain, as we  
 doubt not we shall, a full establishment of our  
 rights, it depends wholly on their choice, whether

P

they

*Ma. 20.* they will participate with us in those blessings, or still remain subject to every act of Tyranny, which *British* Ministers shall please to exercise over them. Urge all such arguments, as your prudence shall suggest, to enforce our opinion concerning the mutual interest of the two Countries, and to convince them of the impossibility of the War being concluded to the disadvantage of these Colonies, if we wisely and vigorously co-operate with each other.

To convince them of the uprightness of our intentions towards them, you are to declare that it is our inclination, that the People of *Canada* may set up such a Form of Government, as will be most likely, in their judgment, to produce their happiness: And you are in the strongest terms to assure them, that it is our earnest desire to adopt them into our Union, as a sister Colony, and to secure the same general System of mild and equal Laws for them and for ourselves, with only such local differences as may be agreeable to each Colony respectively.

Assure the People of *Canada*, that we have no apprehension that the *French* will take any part with *Great Britain*; but that it is their interest, and we have reason to believe their inclination, to cultivate a friendly intercourse with these Colonies.

You are from this, and such other reasons as may appear most proper, to urge the necessity the People are under of immediately taking some decisive step, to put themselves under the protection of the United Colonies. For expediting such a  
measure,



measure, you are to explain to them our method *Ma. 20.* of collecting the sense of the People, and conducting our Affairs regularly by Committees of Observation and Inspection in the several Districts, and by Conventions and Committees of Safety in the several Colonies. Recommend these modes to them. Explain to them the nature and principles of Government among Freemen; developing, in contrast to those, the base, cruel, and insidious designs involved in the late Act of Parliament, for making a more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of *Quebec*. Endeavour to stimulate them by motives of Glory as well as Interest, to assume a part in a Contest, by which they must be deeply affected, and to aspire to a portion of that Power, by which they are ruled, and not to remain the mere spoils and prey of Conquerors and Lords.

You are further to declare, that we hold sacred the Rights of Conscience, and may promise to the whole People, solemnly in our Name, the free and undisturbed exercise of their Religion, and to the Clergy the full, perfect, and peaceable enjoyment of all their Estates; that the government of every thing relating to their Religion and Clergy, shall be left intirely in the hands of the good People of that Province, and such Legislature as they shall constitute; provided; however, that all other denominations of Christians be equally intitled to hold Offices, and enjoy civil Privileges, and the free exercise of their Religion, and be totally exempt from the payment of any Tithes or Taxes for the support of any Religion.

Inform

*Ma.20.* Inform them that you are vested by this Congress with full Powers to effect these purposes; and therefore press them to have a complete representation of the People assembled in Convention with all possible expedition, to deliberate concerning the establishment of a Form of Government, and a Union with the United Colonies. As to the terms of Union, insist on the propriety of their being similar to those on which the other Colonies unite. Should they object to this, report to this Congress the Objections, and the Terms on which alone they will come into our Union. Should they agree to our Terms, you are to promise in the names of the United Colonies, that we will defend and protect the People of *Canada* against all enemies, in the same manner as we will defend and protect any of the United Colonies.

You are to establish a free Press, and to give directions for the frequent publication of such Pieces as may be of service to the cause of the United Colonies.

You are to settle all disputes between the *Canadians* and the Continental Troops, and to make such regulations relating thereto, as you shall judge proper.

You are to make a strict and impartial Inquiry into the cause of the imprisonment of Colonel *Du Free*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Nesau*, Major *St. George Du Pree*, and Major *Gray*, Officers of the Militia, and of *John Frazer*, Esq. late a Judge of the Police at *Montreal*, and take such orders concerning them as you shall judge most proper.

In

In reforming any abuses you may observe *Ma. 20.*  
in *Canada*, establishing and enforcing regulations for preservation of Peace and good Order there, and composing differences between the Troops of the United Colonies and the *Canadians*, all Officers and Soldiers are required to yield Obedience to you; and to enforce the decisions that you or any two of you may make, you are impowered to suspend any Military Officer from the exercise of his Commission, till the pleasure of the Congress shall be known, if you or any two of you shall think it expedient.

You are also empowered to sit and vote as members of Councils of War, in directing fortifications and defences to be made, or to be demolished, by Land or by Water; and to draw orders on the President for any sums of Money, not exceeding one hundred thousand Dollars in the whole, to defray the expence of the Works.

Lastly, You are, by all the means you can use, to promote the execution of the Resolutions now made, or hereafter to be made in Congress.

*On Motion Resolved,*

That the following additional Instructions be given to the Commissioners aforesaid,

You are impowered and directed to promote and encourage the Trade of *Canada* with the *Indian Nations*, and to grant Passports for the carrying it on, as far as it may consist with the safety of the Troops, and the public Good.

You

*Ma. 20.* You are also directed and authorized to assure the Inhabitants of *Canada*, that their Commerce with foreign Nations shall in all respects be put upon an equal footing with, and encouraged and protected in the same manner as the Trade of the United Colonies.

You are also directed to use every wise and prudent measure to introduce and give credit and circulation to the Continental Money in *Canada*.

In case the former resolution of Congress respecting the *English American Troops* in *Canada* has not been carried into effect, you are directed to use your best endeavours for forming a Battalion of the *New York Troops* in that Country, and to appoint the Field and other Officers out of the Gentlemen who have continued there during the Campaign, according to their respective ranks and merit. And if it should be found impracticable, you are to direct such of them as are provided for in the four Battalions now raising in *New York*, to repair to their respective Corps. To enable you to carry this resolution into effect, you are furnished with Blank Commissions signed by the President.

*Resolved,*

That the Memorial from the *Indian Traders* residing at *Montreal* be delivered to the Commissioners going to *Canada*.

The draught of the Commission being taken into consideration, and debated by Paragraphs was agreed to, as follows :

The

The Delegates of the United Colonies of *New Mass-*  
*Hampshire*, &c. to *Benjamin Franklin*, L. L. D. Member of the Royal Academy of Sciences at  
*Paris*, F. R. S. &c. &c. one of the Delegates of  
the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, *Samuel Chase*, Esq.  
one of the Delegates of the Colony of *Maryland*,  
and *Charles Carroll* of *Carrollton*, Esq. of the said  
Colony of *Maryland*, Greeting. Know ye, that we,  
reposing special Trust and Confidence in your zeal,  
fidelity, abilities, and assiduity, do, by these pre-  
sents, constitute and appoint you, or any two of  
you, Commissioners for and on behalf of us, and  
all the People of the United Colonies, whom we  
represent, to promote or to form an Union between  
the said Colonies and the People of *Canada*, accord-  
ing to the Instructions herewith delivered you, and  
such as you may hereafter receive, and to execute all  
such matters and things, as you are or shall be di-  
rected by your said Instructions. And we do require  
all Officers, Soldiers, and others, who may facilitate  
your negotiation, or promote the success thereof,  
to aid and assist you therein; and you are from time  
to time to transmit and report your proceedings to  
Congress. This Commission to continue in force  
till revoked by this or a future Congress.

Dated at *Philadelphia* this      Day of

By order of Congress.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *Adams*, and  
Mr. *Chase*, be appointed to confer with Mr. *Wrix-*  
*on*, to examine into his Military Abilities, and in-  
quire

*Ma. 20.* quire whether he is willing to engage in the service of the United Colonies, and report to Congress.

Colonel *St. Clair* having informed Congress that *Michael Hufnagle*, appointed a first Lieutenant, and *James O'Hara*, and *Abel Morris*, appointed Ensigns in his Battalion, have declined to accept their Commissions, the Committee on qualifications recommended *Thomas Butler* in the room of *M. Hufnagle*, *George McCulloch* in the room of *James O'Hara*, and *George Ross* in the room of *Abel Morris*.

*Resolved,*

That they be accepted, and that Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee of Safety of *New Jersey* be desired to remove the Prisoners from *Trenton* to such place or places in that Colony, as may be thought convenient, at a proper distance from the Sea and the Post Roads, subject to the regulations formerly made respecting Prisoners.

*Resolved,*

That all Officers, Prisoners, who shall refuse to subscribe the Parole ordered by Congress, be committed to Prison.

The Committee appointed to promote the making of Muskets, to whom Colonel *Dayton's* Letter respecting the quality of the Arms taken by Colonel *Heard on Long Island* was referred, brought in their report, which was read; whereupon the Congress came to the following resolution:

Whereas

Whereas in the Execution of the resolve of Con-<sup>Ma.29.</sup>gress of the 14th, respecting the disarming of disabled Persons, many Fire Arms may be taken, which may not be fit to arm any of the Troops mentioned therein. Therefore,

*Resolved,*

That all the Fire Arms so taken being appraised according to said resolve, none of them shall be paid for, but those that are fit for the use of such Troops, or that may conveniently be so made, and the remainder shall be safely kept by the said Assemblies, Conventions, Councils or Committees of Safety, for the owners, to be delivered to them when the Congress shall direct.

The Committee appointed to consider the best ways and means of supplying the Army in *Canada* with Provisions and Necessaries brought in their report, which was read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

A Petition of *John Secord* was presented to Congress and read, and the consideration thereof, at the request of a Colony, was deferred till to-morrow.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Abraham Hunt*, for Provisions, Fire-wood, &c. to the Prisoners at *Trenton*, and for Horse-hire for the public Service, the sum of 607.6 Dollars.

Q

To

*Ma. 20.* To *Ephraim Blaine*, Esq. for necessaries furnished the Rifle Companies, the sum of 129.7 Dollars; of which sum 44.3 Dollars are to be charged to Captain *Hendricks*, and 65 Dollars to Captain *Chambers*.

To fundries, on certificates for necessaries furnished to one of the Rifle Companies, the sum of 122.5 Dollars, of which sum 101.4 Dollars, being for Rifles, &c. furnished to Captain *Clugge's* Company, to be charged to said Company; the amount of the Certificates to be paid to *Bernard Dougherty*, Esq.

To *William Bausman*, for Provisions, &c. furnished the Prisoners in *Lancaster*, the sum of 1528.8 Dollars.

To the Committee of *Frederick*, the sum of 52.7 Dollars, to be paid to *Thomas Johnson*, Esq.

To *Francis Lee*, for 483 Meals dieting of General *Lee's* Guard, the sum of 48.3 Dollars.

To *Conrad Ulster*, for 185 Meals dieting the said Men, 19 Dollars.

To *Mary Bryant*, for 288 Meals dieting the said Men, 28 Dollars.

To *Ann Todd*, for 158 Meals dieting the said Men, the sum of 15.8 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the above Accounts be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *March 21*, 1776.

*Ma. 21.* A Letter of the 7th from General *Schuyler*, with a return of the forces before *Quebec*, was laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*



*Resolved,*

Ma. 21.

That it be referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr.

*Harrison*, and Mr. *S. Adams*.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be requested to employ some trusty Persons in each County to purchase as many good Muskets as will be sufficient to Arm the Battalions raised in said Colony; and that they exert their utmost diligence in procuring the said Arms speedily, and on the most reasonable Terms; that an Order for 12,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of said Committee to pay for the Arms, the said Committee to be accountable.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 600 Dollars be sent to Colonel *Charles Stuart*, and that he be desired to muster Captain *Woolverton's* Company, and when he finds them properly armed, accoutred, and ready to march, to furnish them with necessaries, and expedite their march to *New York*, agreeable to the orders of Congress; Mr. *Stuart* to be accountable for the Money put into his Hands.

*Resolved,*

That *Monf. le Chevalier de St. Aulaire* be permitted to raise an Independant Company of Rangers in *Canada*, with the pay of a Captain; or, in case he shall not be able to raise such a Company, that he be recommended to the Commanding Officer in *Canada*, to be employed in such service there, as may be thought suitable to his Genius and Ability.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the several Assemblies,

*Resolved,* That the said Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety, and Committees of Correspondence and Inspection, that they exert their utmost Endeavours to promote the Culture of Hemp, Flax, and Cotton, and the growth of Wool in these United Colonies.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the said Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety, that they take the earliest Measures for erecting and establishing in each and every Colony, a Society for the improvement of Agriculture, Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, and to maintain a Correspondence between such Societies, that the rich and numerous natural Advantages of this Country for supporting its Inhabitants may not be neglected.

That it be recommended to the said Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety, that they forthwith consider of ways and means of introducing the Manufactures of Duck and Sailcloth, and Steel into such Colonies, where they are not now understood, and of encouraging, increasing, and improving them, where they are.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to superintend the Printing the Journals of Congress; and that, if the present Printer cannot execute the Work with sufficient Expedition, they be empowered to employ another Printer.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *Allen*.

The

The matters to this day referred being post-<sup>Ma.22.</sup>  
poned.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *March 22.* 1776.

A Letter of the 13th from General *Washington*,<sup>Ma.23.</sup>  
inclosing the proceedings of a Council of War,  
also a Letter from Lord *Sterling* of the 19th, were  
laid before Congress and read.

A Petition from *Thorowgood Smith*, and others,  
was presented to Congress and read, setting forth  
that they have procured a Vessel, and raised Mo-  
ney to fit her out as a Privateer, in order to cruise  
and guard the Coast of *Virginia*, and praying that  
a Commission be granted to *William Shippen*, to  
whom they propose to give the command of said  
Vessel; and farther that the Congress will grant  
them a small quantity of Powder, upon their mak-  
ing satisfaction for the same.

*Resolved,*

That a Commission be granted to *Wil-*  
*liam Shippen*, as Captain of the above mentioned  
Vessel, for the purposes aforesaid.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed  
to sell Captain *William Shippen*, 300 lb. of Powder,  
for the use of his Vessel.

The

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*Ma. 23.* The Committee appointed to prepare a Declaration pursuant to certain resolutions, brought in a Draught, which was read,

*Resolved,*

That the Petition of *John Secord* be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. Penn, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. Jay.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

On Account of Expences in conveying Powder, the sum of 8.3 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *John Morton*, Esq.

To *Matthias Slough*, for Provisions furnished the Prisoners in *Lancaster*, the sum of 226.8 Dollars.

To *Ephraim Blaine*, for sundry Articles omitted in the Account of Expences at the Treaty with the *Indians* at *Pittsburg*, the sum of 90.5 Dollars.

To sundries, on Certificates for necessaries furnished to Captain *Stephenson's* Company in *Virginia*, the sum of 58.3 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Timothy Matlack*, of which 14.7 Dollars, being for a Riffle, to be charged to Captain *Stevenson*.

*Ordered,*

That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 750 Dollars be advanced to the *Baron de Wcedtke*, he to be accountable out of his Pay.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

*Ma. 22.*

That the Rank of all such Officers in the Continental Army, as held similar Commissions in that service, before the term of their late appointment expired, be settled by the dates of their former, and not their present Commissions.

The Assembly of the Counties on *Delaware*, having recommended a Gentleman to be Major of the Battalion ordered to be raised in that Colony, in the room of *John M'Pherson*, Jun. Esq. who fell before *Quebec*, and never received his Commission, the Congress proceeded to the election, and the Ballots being taken and examined.

*Thomas M'Donneugh* was elected.

*Resolved,*

That an Order for 12,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of the Committee of Safety of *Delaware* Government, for the use of the Battalion raised in that Colony, the said Committee to be accountable.

The Congress took into consideration the Declaration brought in by the Committee, and after debate, the further consideration thereof, at the request of a Colony, was postponed till to-morrow.

*Ordered,*

That the Secretary publish the substance of the Letters received from the Camp at *Cambridge*.

*Resolved,*

That the Marine Committee be impowered to dispose of the Coal on Board the *Blue-Mountain*.

*Ma. 22. Mountain Valley*, in such manner as they shall judge most for the benefit of the United Colonies.

The matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *March 23. 1776.*

*Ma 23.* A Letter from *James Young* was laid before Congress and read, requesting that his Son *John*, who eloped from him last *January*, and got on board the *Phenix Ship of War*, but is now fortunately a Prisoner in *New York*, may be permitted on his Parole to reside at the Estate of his late Grandfather, *Dr. Græme*.

*Resolved,*

That *Mr. Young's* request be granted.

A Letter from *Lord Sterling* of the 18th, inclosing a Letter from *William de Hart*, and a Letter from the Captains and Subalterns of the first *New-Jersey* Battalion. Also,

A Memorial from *Thomas Scott* of *Hunterdon*, desiring that he may be appointed a Captain of a Company of Rangers. And,

A Letter from *S. Badlam* were laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That the said Letters be referred to the Committee on qualifications.

*Resolved,*

Ma. 23.  
*Resolved,*

That an Order for 30,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *Thomas Lowry*, Commissary for the use of the *New Jersey* Battalions, he to be accountable.

The Committee on qualifications having recommended *Peter Scull* to be Brigade-Major in the Army of the United Colonies in the Middle Department ;

*Joseph Davenport* to be Captain in the third *Pennsylvania* Battalion in the room of *Mr. Scull* ;

*Evan Edwards* to a Captain in said Battalion in the room of *Mr. Alice*, who has resigned ;

*William Tilton* to be a first Lieutenant in said Battalion in the room of *Evan Edwards* ;

*Garret Steddiford* to be an Ensign in the said Battalion ;

And having also recommended the following Persons for Colonel *Irvine's* Battalion, viz.

*Robert Wilson* to be a first Lieutenant in the room of *William M'Gleland*, resigned ;

*John Alexander*, to be a first Lieutenant in the room of *Robert White*, resigned ;

*Andrew Irvine*, a second Lieutenant in the room of *John Alexander* ;

*Neeper*, an Ensign in the room of *John Murray* who has resigned ;

R

*Resolved,*

*Ma. 23. Resolved,*

That they be accepted, and that Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 3200 Dollars in Specie be advanced to Mr. *Cole*, to be by him delivered to the Commanding Officer in *Canada*, for the service of the Continent, and that he be desired to proceed thither immediately.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To Dr. *Jonathan Potts*, for attendance on the second and fourth *Pennsylvania* Battalions, the sum of 67.6 Dollars.

To *Nathaniel Heard*, for expences in the expedition against the Tories on *Long Island*, the sum of 2161.6 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the said Accounts be paid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the declaration which was agreed to as follows :

Whereas the Petitions of the United Colonies to the King for the redress of great and manifold Grievances have not only been rejected but treated with Scorn and Contempt, and the opposition to designs evidently formed to reduce them to a state of servile Subjection, and their necessary Defence against hostile Forces actually employed to subdue them, declared Rebellion ; and whereas an unjust War hath been commenced against them, which  
the



the Commanders of the *British* Fleets and Armies *Ma.23.*  
have prosecuted, and still continue to prosecute,  
with their utmost Vigour, and in a cruel Manner,  
wasting, spoiling, and destroying the Country,  
burning Houses and defenceless Towns, and ex-  
posing the helpless Inhabitants to every Misery  
from the Inclemency of the Winter, and not only  
urging Savages to invade the Country, but insti-  
gating Negroes to murder their masters; and  
whereas the Parliament of Great Britain hath late-  
ly passed an Act, affirming these Colonies to be in  
open Rebellion, forbidding all Trade and Com-  
merce with the Inhabitants thereof, until they shall  
accept Pardons, and submit to despotic Rule, de-  
claring their Property wherever found upon the  
Water, liable to Seizure and Confiscation, and e-  
nacting that what had been done there, by virtue  
of the Royal Authority, were just and lawful Acts,  
and shall be so deemed; from all which it is mani-  
fest, that the iniquitous Scheme, concerted to  
deprive them of the Liberty they have a right to  
by the Laws of Nature and the *English* Constituti-  
on, will be pertinaciously pursued: It being there-  
fore necessary to provide for their Defence and Se-  
curity, and justifiable to make Reprisals upon their  
Enemies, and otherwise to annoy them according  
to the Laws and Usages of Nations, the Congress,  
trusting that such of their Friends in *Great Britain*  
(of whom it is confessed there are many entitled to  
Applause and Gratitude for their Patriotism and  
Benevolence, and in whose favour a discrimination  
of Property cannot be made) as shall suffer by Cap-  
tures, will impute it to the Authors of our com-  
mon

*Ma. 23.* mon Calamities, Do Declare and Resolve, as followeth, to wit.

*Resolved,*

That the Inhabitants of these Colonies be permitted to fit out Armed Vessels to cruise on the enemies of these United Colonies.

*Resolved,*

That all Ships and other Vessels, their Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture, and all Goods, Wares, and Merchandizes, belonging to any Inhabitant or Inhabitants of *Great Britain* taken on the high Seas, or between high and low Water Mark, by any armed Vessel, fitted out by any private Person or Persons, and to whom Commissions shall be granted, and being libelled and prosecuted in any Court erected for the Trial of Maritime Affairs in any of these Colonies, shall be deemed and adjudged to be lawful Prize; and after deducting and paying the Wages which Seamen and Mariners on Board of such Captures as are Merchant Ships and Vessels shall be entitled to, according to the Terms of their Contracts, until the time of the adjudication, shall be condemned to and for the use of the Owner or Owners, and the Officers, Marines, and Mariners of such armed Vessel, according to such Rules and Proportions as they shall agree on; provided always, that this Resolution shall not extend to any Vessel bringing Settlers, Arms, Ammunition, or Warlike Stores to and for the use of these Colonies, or any of the Inhabitants thereof, who are Friends to the *American* Cause, or to such Warlike Stores, or to the Effects of such Settlers.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

*Ma. 23.*

That all Ships or Vessels, with their Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture, Goods, Wares, and Merchandizes, belonging to any Inhabitant of *Great Britain* as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any of the Vessels of War of these United Colonies, shall be deemed forfeited; one third, after deducting and paying the Wages of Seamen and Mariners as aforesaid, to the Officers and Men on Board, and two thirds to the use of the United Colonies.

*Resolved,*

That all Ships or Vessels, with their Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture, Goods, Wares, and Merchandizes, belonging to any Inhabitants of *Great Britain* as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any Vessel of War fitted out by and at the expence of any of the United Colonies, shall be deemed forfeited, and divided, after deducting and paying the Wages of Seamen and Mariners as aforesaid, in such manner and proportions as the Assembly or Convention of such Colony shall direct.

*Resolved,*

That all Vessels, with their Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture, and Cargoes, belonging to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain* as aforesaid, and all Vessels which may be employed in carrying supplies to the Ministerial Armies, which shall happen to be taken near the Shores of any of these Colonies, by the People of the Country or detachments from the Army, shall be deemed lawful Prize; and the Court of Admiralty within the said Colony is required on condemnation thereof, to adjudge that all Charges and Expences, which may attend the Capture

*Ma. 23.* Capture and Trial, be first paid out of the Monies arising from the sales of the Prize, and the remainder equally divided among all those, who shall have been actually engaged and employed in taking the said Prize. Provided, that where any detachments of the Army shall have been employed as aforesaid, their part of the Prize-Money, shall be distributed among them in Proportion to the Pay of the Officers and Soldiers so employed.

*Resolved,*

That the Commissioners appointed to go to *Canada*, or any two of them, be impowered, if they think it necessary for the service of the United Colonies, to raise a number of Independent Companies, not exceeding six, and to appoint the Officers; that they also be empowered to fill up all Vacancies, that may happen in the Army of the United Colonies in *Canada*, while they are there.

*Resolved,*

That 1066  $\frac{2}{3}$  Dollars in Continental Money, over and above the 1600 Dollars to be paid them in Specie, be advanced to the Commissioners going to *Canada*, to defray their Expences, they to render an Account.

*Resolved,*

That 400 Dollars in Specie be paid to Mr. *Walker*, in full for so much by him lent to General *Wooster*, for the use of the Army in *Canada*, and that General *Wooster's* Note be taken up and cancelled.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will on *Monday* next resolve itself into a Committee of the whole to take into consideration the Trade of the United Colonies;

nies; and that fundry Motions offered by the Mem-<sup>Ma.23</sup>  
bers from *Massachusetts Bay*, *Maryland*, and *Vir-*  
*ginia*, be referred to said Committee.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.

MONDAY, *March 25*. 1776.

Sundry Letters were laid before Congress and <sup>Ma.25</sup>  
read.

One from General *Washington* of the 19th  
wherein he informs Congress, that on the 17th  
the Enemy evacuated *Boston*, and our Troops took  
possession of it.

One from General *Schuyler*, of the 12th.

One from Lord *Sterling* of the 21st. And,

One from the Committee of Safety of *New*  
*Jersey*.

*Resolved*,

That the thanks of this Congress, in  
their own Name, and in the Name of the Thirteen  
United Colonies, whom they represent, be pre-  
sented to his Excellency General *Washington*, and  
the Officers and Soldiers under his command, for  
their wise and spirited Conduct in the Siege and  
Acquisition of *Boston*; and that a Medal of Gold  
be struck in commemoration of this great Event,  
and presented to his Excellency; and that a Com-  
mittee of three be appointed to prepare a Letter of  
Thanks, and a proper Device for the Medal.

The

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*Ma. 25.* The Members chosen, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Jay*,  
and Mr. *Hopkins*.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to confer with Mr. *Dugan*, and Colonel *Ritzema*.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Johnson*, and Mr. *Allen*.

*Resolved,*

That 20,000 Dollars be advanced to the Delegates of *Virginia* for the use of the Battalions in that Colony; the said Delegates to account for the expenditure thereof.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the Colonies in the Southern Department brought in their report, which was read as follows :

“ That it appears highly probable that a very considerable Force will be exerted in that Department by our Enemies early this Spring; that the Continental Forces employed in *South Carolina* and *Virginia* respectively, cannot prudently be solely relied on, for the defence of those Colonies; that *South Carolina* and *Virginia* are at a very great separate expence in armed Vessels, rendered absolutely necessary by the situation and circumstances of those Countries; that the Militia of *South Carolina* are obliged to perform a very laborious Duty, which, from the smallness of their Number, and the consequent quick Rotation, is excessively burdensome; and that the Colony of *Virginia*, in addition

dition to the six Battalions already there; have re-<sup>Ma.25.</sup>solved to raise, and are now embodying, three other Battalions." Whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That the Convention or Council of Safety of *South Carolina* be permitted to raise and embody two other Battalions, and that they be on the Pay and at the Expence of the Continent, as soon as they shall be armed fit for Service, and accordingly mustered.

That the three Colonial Battalions of *Virginia*, be also on the Pay and at the Expence of the Continent, as soon as they shall be armed fit for Service, and accordingly mustered.

That the Contracts made by the Council of Safety of *Virginia* for the Subsistence of the third Battalion in that Colony, at six-pence half-penny a Ration, of the fifth at eight-pence, and of the second, fourth, seventh, eighth, and ninth, at seven pence half-penny a Ration be confirmed.

*Resolved,*

That a Deputy Muster-Master General be appointed for the Southern Department.

The Ballots being taken and examined.

*Edmund Randolph*, Esq. was elected.

*Resolved,*

That *E. Randolph*, Esq. be empowered to appoint two Deputy Muster-Masters under him, one for *North Carolina* and the other for *South Carolina* and *Georgia*:

S

*Resolved,*

*Ma. 25. Resolved,*

That the order of the Day be postponed.

The Congress then took into consideration the report of the Committee on the ways and means of supplying the Troops in *Canada* with Provisions and Necessaries ; whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That General *Schuyler* be directed to take such order respecting the supplies of Provisions necessary for the Troops in *Canada*, as he may deem expedient.

The Congress being of opinion that the reduction of *Quebec*, and the general security of the Province of *Canada*, are Objects of great concern ;

*Resolved,*

That General *Washington* be directed to detach four Battalions into *Canada*, from the Army under his Command, as soon as he shall be of opinion that the Safety of *New York* and the eastern Service will permit.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *March 26. 1776.*

*Ma. 26.* The Congress being informed that Mr. *Ward*, one of the Delegates of *Rhode-Island*, died yesterday.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will in a Body attend the Funeral of Mr. *Ward* to-morrow, with a Crape round the Arm, and will continue in Mourning for the space of one Month.

*Resolved,*



*Resolved,**Ma. 26.*

That Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *S. Adams*, and Mr. *Wolcott* be a Committee to superintend the Funeral, and that they be directed to apply to the rev. Mr. *Stillman*, and request him to preach a Funeral Sermon on the occasion.

That the said Committee be directed to invite the Assembly and Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, and other public Bodies in *Philadelphia*, to attend the Funeral.

*Resolved,*

That the Privates of the Companies ordered from *Maryland* to *Accomac* and *Northampton*, be allowed the Pay of the Privates in the Southern Department, which is 6 $\frac{3}{4}$  Dollars, *per* Calender Month.

*Resolved,*

That if the Convention or Council of Safety of *North Carolina* shall judge it necessary for the Common Safety to raise one or two more Battalions, the same when armed fit for Service and mustered, be taken into the Pay of the Continent.

*Resolved,*

That Commodore *Douglass* be ordered immediately to repair to the Lakes, and take the command of the Vessels on that Station.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Thursday*.

THURSDAY, *March 28.* 1776.

*Resolved,**Ma. 28.*

That an order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *William Barcl*

*Ma. 28.* *rel* of *Philadelphia*, in full for Tent Cloth sent by him to Col. *Miffin* for the use of the Army under the command of General *Washington*; the Money being paid in consequence of the General's Letter of the 13th, to be charged to the Account of the General.

*Resolved,*

That the Marine Committee be empowered to purchase, on the most reasonable Terms they can, the Ship *Molly*, for the use of the Continent, and to fit her out with all possible Expedition to join Captain *Barry* on his Cruise along the Coast, between *New York* and *Virginia*.

A Memorial of *Thomas Walker* of *Canada* was presented to Congress and read.

Two Letters of the 27th from the Committee of Safety of *New Jersey*, were read.

*Resolved,*

That the President return an Answer, and inform the Committee of Safety of *New Jersey* that the Congress see no reason to alter or countermand the requisition of the 15th, and that therefore they be requested to expedite the march of the Troops to *New York*, agreeable to the requisition of the Commanding Officer.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a Colonel of the third Battalion ordered to be raised in the Colony of *New York*, and the Ballots being taken.

*Rudolphus Ritzema* was elected.

The

The Committee appointed to confer with Colonel Ritzema and Mr. Dugan brought in their report, which was read.

*Resolved,*

That an order for 1000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. Jeremiah Dugan, as a reward for his Services in Canada.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. Jeremiah Dugan be appointed a Major, with the rank of a Lieutenant-Colonel, to command a Body of three hundred Rangers.

That the said Rangers be divided into three Companies, each to consist of an hundred Men, and to be commanded by a Captain and two Lieutenants: That the Captains and Lieutenants be recommended by Lieutenant-Colonel Dugan to the Commissioners going to Canada for their Approbation, and that, if they approve the Gentlemen recommended, they grant them Commissions.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. William Finney be appointed a Deputy Quarter-Master General in the Southern Department.

*Resolved,*

That two Engineers be employed for the Southern Department.

*Resolved,*

That an order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. James Mease, for the use of the Pennsylvania Battalions, he to be accountable.

Information being given to Congress that some Prisoners

*Ma.28.* Prisoners in the Goal of *Philadelphia* have meditated an Escape, and are near carrying their Plan into Execution.

*Resolved,*

That the Goaler be directed to confine *John Connolly, J. Smith, and Moses Kirkland*, in seperate Apartments, and suffer no Person to converse with any of them, without special orders of Congress.

*Resolved,*

That the Sheriff of the City and County of *Philadelphia* be directed by Mr. *M'Kean* to call to his assistance a guard of fifty men from the Barracks for the Defence of the Goal; and that the Sheriff be farther directed to keep secret any intimation given him of a design to rescue his Prisoners, and to employ every means to discover and apprehend those concerned in such design.

*Resolved,*

That an order for 1000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. *Samuel Fairlamb*, for the use of the fourth *Pennsylvania* Battalion, he to be accountable.

The Matters to this Day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *March 29, 1776.*

*Ma.29.*

Sundry Letters were laid before Congress and read.

Two

Two from General *Schuyler* of the 19th and *Ma. 29.*  
21, with a Copy of the Treaty held with the *In-*  
*dians* at *Albany*, &c.

One from the Convention of *New York*, of the  
26th.

One from *Allan M'Donald*.

*Resolved,*

That the Letter from *Allan M'Don-*  
*ald* be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

That the other Letters with the Papers enclosed  
be referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr.  
*S. Adams*.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed  
to deliver to Mr. *William Henry*, and Co. 15 lb.  
of Powder, to prove the Muskets he has contract-  
ed to make for the Continent.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the  
report of the Committee on the means of supplying  
the Troops in *Canada*. Whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That a Deputy Commissary General of  
Stores and Provisions be appointed for the Army  
of the United Colonies in *Canada*.

The Ballots being taken and examined.

Mr. *J. Price* was elected.

*Resolved,*

That the last Paragraph of the report  
be

*Ma. 29.* be recommitted for further enquiry and examination.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New Jersey*, and one from Captain *John Macpherson* were received and read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY, *March 30, 1776.*

*Ma. 30.* Resolved,

That 60 Dollars be advanced to Captain *Arundel*, to be deducted out of his Pay, and that he be directed immediately to repair to the Southern Department, and put himself under the command of General *Lee*.

Resolved,

That Mons. *Dechambault* and his companion be permitted to come to *Philadelphia* and transact his Business, and then return to *Bristol*.

The Congress proceeded to the election of two Engineers for the Southern Department, and the Ballots being taken.

*John Stadler* and Mons. *Massenbach*, were elected.

The Congress took into consideration the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New Jersey*. Whereupon,

Resolved,

That the Minute-Men employed by Congress under the command of Colonel *Heard*, in  
the

the expedition to *Long Island*, be allowed, while *Ma. 30.* on that Service, the same Pay and Rations as Continental Troops in the Middle Department.

*Resolved,*

That the Delegates of *New York* prepare an Answer to the Committee of Safety of *New Jersey*, and assign the reasons of the foregoing Resolution.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *William Tricket*, for Stationary, the sum of 41.7 Dollars.

To *Philip Apricht*, for Provisions to General *Lee's* Guard, the sum of 4.7 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Adam Kimmel*,

To fundries, on Certificates for necessaries furnished to the Rifle Companies, the sum of 44.2 Dollars, and that 2.5 Dollars, part of said sum be charged to Captain *Gressap's* Company.

To fundries, on Certificates for Rifles, Shirts, &c. furnished to Captain *Gluggage's* Company, the sum of 81.1 Dollars, which ought to be paid to *John Montgomery*, Esq. and charged to said Company.

To *Robert Erwin*, Waggon-Master, on an Account now settled, the sum of 409.3 Dollars.

To *Sacheverel Wood*, for Provisions furnished by him to several Prisoners in the Goal of *Philadelphia*, the sum of 137.6 Dollars.

To *Thomas Dewees*, for Provisions for *Connolly*, *Cameron*, *Smith*, and *Kirkland*, the sum of 57.8 Dollars.

T

*Ordered,*

*Ma. 30.* *Ordered,*  
 That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee appointed to confer with Major  
*Wrixon*, brought in their report, which was read.  
*Resolved,*

That each Regimental Surgeon be al-  
 lowed a Mate.

That the Pay of a Surgeon's Mate be 18 Dollars  
 a Month.

*Resolved,*

That suitable Chirurgical Instruments be  
 purchased with each Medicine Chest.

*Resolved,*

That each Brigadier General, when on  
 Command, be empowered to appoint a Brigade  
 Major.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.



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# J O U R N A L S

## O F

# C O N G R E S S.

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MONDAY, *April* 1. 1776.

*Resolved,*

**T**HAT Captain *D. Arundel* be allowed 48.5 Dollars in full for Pay and Subsistence, from the 8th of *February*, the time he was recommended to General *Schuyler*, to the 19th of *March*, when he received his Commission. *Apr. 1.*

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to advance Captain *Romans* one Month's Pay for himself and the Officers and Men of his Company, and also subsistence Money to *Albany*.

The Committee to whom the Petition of Captain *White Eyes* was referred, brought in their report which was read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The

*Apr. 1.* The Congress having, on the 17th of *February* last, appointed a standing Committee for superintending the Treasury, with Power, among other things, to employ and instruct proper Persons for liquidating the public Accounts; and the said resolutions not being sufficiently explicit, with respect to the manner and place of settling those Accounts, and it being a matter of great consequence, that the public Accounts should be regularly stated and kept, and justly liquidated and settled.

*Resolved,*

Therefore that a Treasury Office of nstituted and established, and that kept in the City or Place, where from time to time be assembled and ons.

That the said Office of Accounts be under the direction and superintendence of the standing Committee for the Treasury.

That an Auditor-General, and a competent Number of Assistants and Clerks, be appointed by Congress, and employed for stating, arranging, and keeping the public Accounts.

That all Accounts and Claims against the United Colonies, for Services or Supplies, where the Rates or Prices have not been ascertained by Congress, shall be presented to the Committee of Claims, liquidated by them, and reported to and allowed by Congress, previous to their being passed at the Treasury Office; that all other Accounts and Claims, consisting of Articles, the Price or Value of

of which shall have previously been fixed by contract or otherwise, ascertained by Congress, shall <sup>Apr. 1.</sup> be liquidated and settled at the Treasury Office, and reported for the allowance of Congress, by the Committee for superintending the Treasury, and then passed and entered at the Treasury Office.

That all Contracts, Securities, and Obligations, for the use and benefit of the United Colonies, shall be lodged and kept in the Treasury Office of Accounts; and that all Persons to whom public Monies have been or shall be advanced or paid, shall be charged with the same in the Books of the said Office, for which every Warrant on the Treasury, which shall issue after the said Office shall be opened, shall, previous to its being paid, be entered at the Treasury Office, and the Entry certified on the Warrant by one of the Committee on the Treasury, the Auditor General, or one of his Assistants or Clerks; provided, however, that all Orders or Warrants issued by Committees appointed and authorized by Congress to draw on the Treasurers for particular Purposes, shall be paid and charged to the Account of the said Committee respectively, until they shall settle and have their Accounts passed by Congress, when the Debts against them shall be discharged in the Treasury Office by such Credits as Congress shall agree to and allow.

That all Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, or Committees of Safety, Commissaries, Pay-Masters, and others, intrusted with public Monies, shall, within a reasonable Time after being called upon for

*Apr. 1.* for that purpose, by the Committee of the Treasury, produce their Accounts and Vouchers at the Treasury Office, in order to their being settled and adjusted in the manner before directed.

That the Committee for superintending the Treasury shall be authorized to apply to the Commanding Officers and others, in the Continental Service, for such Materials and Information, as the Committee may judge to be useful for stating, explaining, or checking the public Accounts, in order to their being fairly and justly Settled.

That the Auditor General and his Assistants or Clerks, before entering upon their Offices, shall respectively take an Oath, to be administered by one or more of the Committee of the Treasury Office (a Certificate whereof shall be filed in the Treasury Office) well and faithfully to execute the Trust reposed in them, as Auditor, Assistant, or Clerk, (as the case may be,) of the Office of Accounts, established by Congress, according to the best of their Skill and Judgment, and to disclose no Matter, the knowledge of which shall be acquired in consequence of such their Office, which they shall be directed to keep secret.

That the Committee for superintending the Treasury shall be authorized to hire suitable Places, and procure Books of Accounts and other Necessaries at the public Expence, for the establishing and doing the Business of the said Office.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

*Apr. 1.*

That Major *James Hewes*, a Prisoner at *Elizabeth-Town*, be allowed and ordered to come to *Philadelphia* for the benefit of his Health, and there to wait on the Committee for Prisoners, and take their directions with respect to the Place of his future residence.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *M'Kean* and Mr. *Paine*, be directed to examine the Goal of *Philadelphia*, and particularly the Apartments where *Kirkland*, *Conolly*, *Smith*, and *Cameron* are confined, and report what is necessary to be done to have them safely and securely kept.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to confer with *James M'Knight*, and examine his Account and the nature of his Claim, and report thereon to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *M'Kean*, and Mr. *de Hart*.

The Committee on qualifications having recommended *Jacob Kemper, jun.* to be appointed an Ensign in Captain *Howell's* Company in the first *New Jersey* Battalion, in the room of *Cyprus de Hart*, who has resigned.

*Resolved,*

That he be appointed, and that a Commission be granted to him accordingly.

*Resolved,*

That the President in his next Letter to General *Schuyler*, desire him to send an Account of the Lead at *Ticonderoga*.

A Letter

*Apr. 1.* Letter from *Alexander M'Donald, George Gillespie*, and *W. Saunders*, of the 12th of March, was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to *Mr. R. Morris*, *Mr. M'Kean*, and *Mr. De Hart*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, *April 2, 1776.*

*Apr. 2.* A Letter from *General Washington* of the 24th of March, with five Papers inclosed, was laid before Congress and read.

The Committee appointed to prepare the form of a Commission, and Instructions to Commanders of private Ships of War, brought in the same, which were read.

The Commission being agreed to, is as follows:

The Delegates of the United Colonies of *New Hampshire*, &c. to all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting: Know ye, that we have granted, and by these Presents do grant, License and Authority to \_\_\_\_\_ Mariner, Commander of the \_\_\_\_\_ called \_\_\_\_\_ of the Burden of \_\_\_\_\_ Tons, or thereabouts, belonging to \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Colony of \_\_\_\_\_ mounting \_\_\_\_\_ Carriage Guns, and navigated by \_\_\_\_\_ Men, to fit out and set forth the said \_\_\_\_\_ in a warlike Manner, and by and with the said \_\_\_\_\_ and the Crew thereof, by force of Arms to attack, seize, and \_\_\_\_\_

and take the Ships and other Vessels, belonging to *Apr. 2.*  
 the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*, or any of them, with their Tackle, Apparel, Furniture, and Lading, on the high Seas, or between high and low Water Marks, and to bring the same to some convenient Ports in the said Colonies, in order that the Courts which are or shall be there appointed to hear and determine Causes Civil and Maritime, may proceed in due form to condemn the said Captures, if they be adjudged lawful Prize; the said                    having given Bond with sufficient Sureties that nothing be done by the said                    or any of the Officers, Mariners, or Company thereof, contrary to or inconsistent with the usages and customs of Nations, and the Instructions, a Copy of which is herewith delivered to him. And we will and require all our Officers whatsoever, to give succour and assistance to the said                    in the Premises. This Commission shall continue in force until the Congress shall issue Orders to the contrary.

By order of Congress.

The Congress then took into consideration the Draught of Instructions, and after some time spent thereon,

*Resolved,*

That it be recommitted, and that it be an Instruction to the Committee to fill up the Blanks in the said Draught as they shall think best.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter of Thanks to General *Washington*, and the Officers and Soldiers under his Command, brought in a Draught, which was read and agreed to.

U

*Ordered,*

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*Apr. 2.*      *Ordered,*

That it be transcribed, signed by the President, and forwarded.

The Committee on Prisoners, to whom the Letter from *Monf. Belletre*, of the 16th of *March* last, was referred, brought in their report, which was read. Whereupon

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 3400 Dollars be advanced by the Treasurers to *Monf. Belletre* on his delivering to them his Bills of Exchange for the like sum payable in Gold or Silver in the Province of *Canada*.

A Petition from *William Lindsey* being presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That Colonel *Wayne* be directed to discharge *Robert*, the son of said *William Lindsey*, enlisted in his Battalion.

The Matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *April 3, 1776.*

*Apr. 3.*      *Resolved,*

That the Letter from General *Washington* of the 24th of *March*, with the Papers inclosed be referred to a Committee of three.

The



The Members chosen, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Jay*, *Apr. 3.*  
and Mr. *Wilson*.

A Memorial and Petition from Captain *John Nelson*, was presented to Congress and read. Also,

A Petition from *P. Moore*, in behalf of the owners of the Sloops *Congress* and *Chance*, Privateers, was presented and read.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed to sell said owners, 400 lb. of Powder, for the use of their Privateers.

The Committee of Claims, to whom the Accounts of Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood* were referred, brought in their report. Whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That there be advanced to Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood*, the sum of 64,358.6 Dollars, on Account of supplies to the Army in *Canada*, to be accounted for on the Settlement of their Accounts; and that General *Wooster* be directed to forward the Accounts and Vouchers lodged in his Hands.

The said Committee farther reported that there is due,

To the Township of *Montague* in the County of *Suffex* in *New Jersey* for Slay hire, in forwarding the Prisoners from *Canada*, under the command of Captain *Brasber*, the sum of 45 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Nicholas Christopher*.

*Ordered,*

*Apr. 3.*      *Ordered,*

That the same be paid.

A Letter from *H. Fisber* of *Lewes Town* to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, together with a resolve of said Committee being laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That the Commanding Officer of the Battalion raised in *Delaware* Government be directed to send two Companies of said Battalion to *Lewes Town*, there to remain in the Service of the Continent till farther orders.

*Resolved,*

That the Marine Committee be directed and empowered to fit out with all expedition, two armed Cutters for the service of the Continent.

*Resolved,*

That Blank Commissions for Private Ships of War and Letters of Marque and Reprisal, signed by the President, be sent to the General Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety of the United Colonies, to be by them filled up and delivered to the Persons intending to fit out such Private Ships of War for making Captures of British Vessels and Cargoes, who shall apply for the same, and execute the Bonds, which shall be sent with the said Commissions, which Bonds shall be returned to the Congress.

*Resolved,*

That every Person intending to set forth and fit out a Private Ship or Vessel of War, and applying for a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal for that purpose, shall produce a writing

ing subscribed by him, containing the Name and <sup>Apr. 3.</sup> Tonnage or Burden of the Ship or Vessel, the number of her Guns with their weight of Metal, the Name and Place of residence of the Owner or Owners, the Names of the Commander and other Officers, the Number of the Crew, and the Quantity of Provisions and warlike Stores; which writing shall be delivered to the Secretary of Congress, or to the Clerk of the House of Representatives, Convention or Council or Committee of Safety of the Colony in which the Ship or Vessel shall be, to be transmitted to the said Secretary, and shall be registered by him; and that the Commander of the Ship or Vessel, before the Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal may be granted, shall, together with Sureties, seal and deliver a Bond in the Penalty of Five Thousand Dollars, if the Vessel be of one hundred Tons or under, or Ten Thousand Dollars, if of a greater Burden, payable to the President of the Congress in trust for the use of the United Colonies, with Condition in the form following, to wit. "The Condition of this Obligation is such, that if the above bounden who is Commander of the called belonging to of in the Colony of mounting Carriage Guns and navigated by Men, and who hath applied for a Commission and Letters of Marque and Reprisal to Arm, Equip, and set forth to Sea the said as a Private Ship of War, and to make Captures of *British* Vessels and Cargoes, shall not exceed or transgress the Powers and Authorities which shall be contained in the said Commission, but shall in all things observe and conduct himself and govern his Crew by and according

ing

*Apr. 3.* ing to the same, and certain Instructions therewith to be delivered, and such other Instructions as may hereafter be given to him, and shall make reparation for all Damages sustained by any misconduct or unwarrantable proceedings of himself or the Officers or Crew of the said then this Obligation shall be Void, or else remain in Force." which bond shall be lodged with the said Secretary of Congress.

The Committee to whom the Instructions to the Commanders of Private Ships or Vessels of War, were recommitted, brought in a report, which being taken into consideration and debated by Paragraphs, was agreed to as follows.

*Instructions to the Commanders of Private Ships or Vessels of War, which shall have Commissions or Letters of Marque and Reprisal, authorising them to make Captures of British Vessels and Cargoes.*

1. You may by force of Arms attack, subdue, and take all Ships and other Vessels belonging to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*, on the high Seas, or between high Water and low Water Marks, except Ships and Vessels bringing Persons who intend to settle and reside in the United Colonies, or bringing Arms, Ammunition, or warlike Stores, to the said Colonies, for the use of such Inhabitants thereof as are Friends to the American Cause, which you shall suffer to pass unmolested, the Commanders thereof permitting a peaceable search, and giving satisfactory information of the contents of the Ladings, and destinations of the Voyages.

2. You may by Force of Arms, attack, subdue, and take all Ships and other Vessels whatsoever, carrying

carrying Soldiers, Arms, Gun-powder, Ammu-<sup>Apr. 3.</sup> nition, Provisions, or any other contraband Goods, to any of the *British* Armies or Ships of War employed against these Colonies.

3. You shall bring such Ships and Vessels as you shall take, with their Guns, Rigging, Tackle, Apparel, Furniture, and Ladings, to some convenient Port or Ports of the United Colonies, that proceedings may thereupon be had in due form before the Courts, which are or shall be there appointed to hear and determine Causes Civil and Maritime.

4. You, or one of your chief Officers, shall bring or send the Master and Pilot, and one or more principal Person or Persons of the Company of every Ship or Vessel by you taken, as soon after the Capture as may be, to the Judge or Judges of such Court as aforesaid, to be examined upon Oath, and make answer to the Interrogatories which may be propounded touching the Interest or Property of the Ship or Vessel, and her lading; and at the same time you shall deliver or cause to be delivered to the Judge or Judges, all Passes, Sea Briefs, Charter Parties, Bills of Lading, Cockets, Letters, and other Documents and Writings found on Board, proving the said Papers by the Affidavit of yourself or of some other Person present at the Capture, to be produced as they were received, without fraud, addition, subduction, or embezzlement.

5. You shall keep and preserve every Ship or Vessel and Cargo by you taken, until they shall, by a sentence of a Court properly authorized, be adjudged

*Apr. 3.* judged lawful Prizes; not selling, spoiling, waisting, or diminishing the same; or breaking the bulk thereof, nor suffering any such thing to be done.

6. If you, or any of your Officers or Crew, shall, in cold Blood, kill or maim, or by Torture or otherwise, cruelly, inhumanly, and contrary to common Ufuage, and the Practice of civilized Nations in War, treat any Person or Persons surpris'd in the Ship or Vessel you shall take, the Offender shall be severely punished.

7. You shall, by all convenient opportunities, send to Congress written accounts of the Captures you shall make, with the Number and Names of the Captives, Copies of your Journal from time to time, and Intelligence of what may occur or be discovered concerning the designs, of the enemy, and the destination, motions, and operations of their Fleets and Armies.

8. One third, at least, of your whole Company shall be Land-men.

9. You shall not ransom any Prisoners or Captives, but shall dispose of them in such manner as the Congress, or if that be not sitting in the Colony whither they shall be brought, as the General Assembly, Convention, or Council, or Committee of Safety of such Colony shall direct.

10. You shall observe all such further Instructions as Congress shall hereafter give in the Premises, when you shall have notice thereof.

11. If

11. If you shall do any thing contrary to these <sup>Apr. 3.</sup> Instructions, or to others hereafter to be given, or willingly suffer such thing to be done, you shall not only forfeit your Commission, and be liable to an Action for the breach of the Condition of your Bond, but be responsible to the party grieved for damages sustained by such Malversation.

*Resolved,*

That an order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *James Mease* Commissary, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, he to be accountable.

*Resolved,*

That the Pay of the Auditor of Accounts be at the rate of one thousand and sixty-six Dollars, and two thirds of a Dollar *per annum*.

*Resolved,*

That this Congress will to-morrow morning resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the Trade of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *April 4*, 1776.

*Resolved,*

That the Treasurers be directed to take <sup>Apr. 4.</sup> Colonel *Belestre's* Bills drawn on some of his friends or Correspondents in *Canada*, and not upon General *Carlton*.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

X

To

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Apr. 4. To *John de Hart*, for Provisions furnished by  
*Archibald Campbell*, the sum of 17.9 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the said Account be paid.

*Resolved,*

That an Order for 100 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *Monf. Le Fontaine*, for his services in *Canada*.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the Trade of the United Colonies, and after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the Chair, and *Mr. Harrison* reported that the Committee had taken into consideration the matters referred to them, and had come to sundry resolutions, which he was ordered to deliver in.

The resolutions agreed to by the Committee of the whole Congress being read.

*Ordered to lie on the Table.*

The Committee, to whom were referred the Memorial from *James M'Knight*, and the Letter from *Alexander M'Donald*, *George Gillespie*, and *T. W. Saunders*, brought in their report, which was read. Whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the County of *Burlington*, be requested to make sale of the Sloop *Sally*, whereof the said *James M'Knight* was Prize Master, and which



which was lately run ashore by him, within the *Apr. 4.* said County, together with her Tackle, Apparel, and Furniture, and the Cargo on Board, at public Auction; and after deducting the charges of securing and selling the same, to pay one Moiety of the surplus to the said *James M'Knight* for Salvage, and retain the other Moiety thereof, for the Owner or Owners.

That Messrs. *Alexander M'Donald, George Gillespie, and T. W. Saunders*, who have lately come into the Colony of *New Jersey* from the *British West India* Islands, where, and in *Great Britain*, they have considerable Property remaining, be excused from entering into the Militia of the said Colony, and from signing the Association; provided always, that they be, in all other respects, subject to the like Taxes and Regulations with the other Inhabitants of the said Colony.

The Committee appointed to consider the best ways and means of supplying the Army in *Canada*, brought in a farther report which was read.

*Ordered to lie on the Table.*

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 53 Dollars be advanced to *Monf. St. Aulaire*, to be deducted out of his Pay.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Saturday*.

SATURDAY,

*Apr. 6.*  


SATURDAY, *April 6.* 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply Captain *Romans* with twenty-four Muskets for the use of his Company.

That the said Committee be directed to deliver to Colonel *St. Clair* six Pounds of Powder and four Pounds of Lead, for the use of the Rifle Company in his Battalion.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report from the Committee of the whole, and the same being twice read, and debated by Paragraphs, was agreed to as follows:

*Resolved*,

That any Goods, Wares, and Merchandise, except Staves and empty Casks, other than shaken or knocked down Casks for Molasses, may be exported from the Thirteen United Colonies, by the Inhabitants thereof, and by the People of all such Countries, as are not subject to the King of *Great Britain*, to any parts of the World, which are not under the Dominion of the said King; provided that no Vessel be permitted to export any greater Number of shaken or knocked down Molasses Casks, than the same Vessel is capable of carrying, when they shall be filled with Molasses.

*Resolved*,

That any Goods, Wares, and Merchandises, except such as are of the Growth, Production, or Manufacture of, or brought from any Country under the Dominion of the King of  
*Great*

*Great Britain*, and except *East India* Tea, may be *Apr. 6.* imported from any other parts of the World, to the Thirteen United Colonies, by the Inhabitants thereof, and by the People of all such Countries as are not subject to the said King; liable, however, to all such Duties and Impositions as now are, or may hereafter be laid by any of the said Colonies.

*Resolved,*

That nothing herein contained shall be understood to prevent such future Commercial Regulations, as shall be thought just and necessary by these United Colonies, or their respective Legislatures.

*Resolved,*

That no Slaves be imported into any of the Thirteen United Colonies.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions in the several Colonies to appoint proper Officers at convenient Places in their respective Colonies, to take Bonds in adequate Penalties, for observing the Regulations made by the Congress, or Assemblies, or Conventions, concerning Trade, and for securing the Observation of such parts of the Association, as are not inconsistent therewith; and that the Obligor shall, within eighteen Months after the departure of the Vessel, produce to such Officers a Certificate under the Hands and Seals of three or more reputable Merchants, residing at the Port or Place where the Cargo shall be delivered, that the same was there unladed, and take Manifests upon Oath, of the Cargoes exported and imported, and keep fair Accounts and Entries thereof, give Bills of Health when

*Apr. 6.* when desired, grant Registers shewing the Property of the Vessels cleared out, and sign Certificates that the requisites for qualifying Vessels to Trade, have been complied with : And that the fees of the said Officers be stated by the respective Assemblies or Conventions. Provided always, that no prosecution upon any of the said Bonds, shall be commenced, but within three Years after the date thereof.

*Resolved,*

That all Goods, Wares, and Merchandises, except such as are made Prize of, which shall be imported directly or indirectly from *Great-Britain* or *Ireland*, into any of these United Colonies, contrary to the Regulations established by Congress, shall be forfeited and disposed of, agreeable to such rules as shall be made by the several Assemblies or Conventions, and shall be liable to prosecution and condemnation in any Court erected or to be erected for the determination of Maritime Affairs, in the Colony where the seizure shall be made.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to bring in a resolution for disposing and using the Tea now in these Colonies.

The Members chosen, *Mr. R. Morris*, *Mr. Jay*, and *Mr. M'Kear*.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Robert Erwin*, Waggon-Master for *William M'Carty's* and *Richard Key's* Teams to *Virginia* with Powder,

Powder, each thirty Days and Ferriages, the sum Apr. 6.  
of 250.5 Dollars.

Ordered,

That the same be paid.

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Schuyler* of the 7th and 19th, and from *W. Building*, Esq. Chairman of the Convention of *New York*, of the 26th of *March* last, were referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration,

Resolved,

That the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Albany* be desired to examine, state, and settle the Accounts of Expences incurred in the taking of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*, which shall be laid before them by General *Schuyler*, and report the same to Congress.

Resolved,

That the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Northern Department be desired to assure the *Indians* that Congress will do every thing in their Power to procure Goods for them, and hope they shall soon accomplish it.

Resolved,

That *Robert Yates* be appointed Secretary to the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Northern Department, and be allowed at the rate of two hundred and fifty Dollars by the Year.

Resolved,

That the remainder of the report be postponed.

A Letter from General *Washington* of the 27th of *March*. And,

A Letter

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*April 6.* A Letter from Brigadier General *Heath* being received and read,

*Resolved,*

That the Letter from General *Washington* with the Papers inclosed, be referred to a Committee of the whole Congress.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 100,000 Dollars be sent to *New York* for the use of the Army there, in the service of the United Colonies.

The Committee for Prisoners brought in a report which was read.

*Ordered to lie on the table.*

*Resolved,*

That the Delegates of *Virginia* be directed to write to their Convention or Committee, or Council of Safety, to collect and forward to the Treasurers of the United Colonies, what Gold and Silver they can procure, and to draw on the President for the amount thereof, at the rate of Eight Dollars for Half Joes, weighing nine penny weight.

The Committee on Qualifications, having recommended *Samuel Checkley*, as a proper person to fill a vacancy of an Ensign in the Third *Pennsylvania* Battalion :

*Ordered,*

That a Commission be granted to the said *Samuel Checkley* accordingly.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Tuesday* next.

TUESDAY,

A P R I L, 1776.

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TUESDAY, *April* 9. 1776.

*April* 9.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 200,000 Dollars be sent to *New York*, for the use of the Continental Forces there,

A list of Prisoners brought from *Canada* by Major *Zedwitz*, and a letter of the 4th from *John Nelson*, Chairman of the Committee of *Brunswick*, respecting Prisoners brought to that place; also a Letter from Colonel *Haflet* of the *Delaware* Battalion, being laid before Congress and read,

*Resolved,*

That they be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

A Letter of the 5th from Captain *Brice*, a Prisoner at *Brunswick*, was presented to Congress and read, whereupon

*Resolved,*

That Captain *Brice* be permitted to come to *Philadelphia*, in order to consult a Physician, and there wait the orders of Congress.

A Letter of the 6th of *March* from Brigadier General *Wooster*, and a Letter of the 26th of the same Month, from Gen. *Schuyler*, were laid before Congress and read.

The Congress proceeded to the election of an Auditor General, and the Ballots being taken and examined,

*John Gibson*, Esq; was elected.

Y

The

*April 9.* The Congress took into consideration the report of the Committee on Prisoners, whereupon

*Resolved,*

That Captain *Thomas Gamble* be not exchanged, there being no Cartel settled.

*Resolved,*

That Captain *Duncan Campbell*, be permitted to reside with his Wife and Family, in the City of *Burlington* in *New Jersey*.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee on Prisoners be directed to write to General *Schuyler*, and take his opinion, whether *Allan M'Donald*, and the other hostages taken in *Tryon* county may, consistent with the public Safety, be permitted to return to their respective homes on their parole.

*Resolved,*

That a list of the Prisoners of War in each Colony be made out and transmitted to the House of Assembly, Convention, Council, or Committee of Safety of such Colony respectively, and that they be authorized and requested to cause a strict observance of the terms on which such Prisoners have been enlarged, and also take especial care that none of those confined by order of Congress be suffered to escape; and also that the allowance to each Prisoner be punctually paid by the President of the Convention, or of the Council, or Committee of Safety of the Colony in which he resides; and where there are no Conventions, by the Speakers of Assembly, which said Presidents or Speakers, are hereby authorized, from time to time, to draw for the sums advanced in  
pursuance



purfuance of this refolution, upon the Prefident April 9  
of Congress.

*Resolved,*

That Brigadier General *Prescot*, upon  
fubfcribing the Parole ordered, be enlarged from  
his prefent confinement.

The Committee of Claims reported that there  
is due,

To *Lewis Nicola*, for repairs done at the old  
Goal in this city, fitted up for the reception of  
Troops, the fum of 226 Dollars.

To *Joseph Page*, for his fervice in attending the  
Powder Waggons to *Virginia*, the fum of 55  
Dollars, and that the fame ought to be paid to  
*Benjamin Harrifon*, Efq.

To *Jacob Garrigues*, for tranfcribing Minutes,  
Letters, &c. for Congress, the fum of 48.2  
Dollars.

To *John Bruce*, for 402 tin Cartouch Boxes, the  
fum of 17.42 Dollars.

To *John Armer* and *Samuel Allen*, for bringing  
baggage &c. belonging to Meffrs *Dulhunt* and *Ga-*  
*milli*, from *New York* to *Philadelphia*, the fum  
of 21 Dollars, and that the fame ought to be  
paid to *Samuel Allen*.

To fundry perfons for Horfe-hire, provifions, &c.  
the fum of 12.5 Dollars, and that the fame  
ought to be paid to *John Alfop*, Efq.

To *Clement Biddle* for Provifions &c. for the *British*  
Troops of the 7th and 26th regiments who are Pri-  
foners, the fum of 294 Dollars, and for Wam-  
pum

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April 9.      pum for the Southern Department, the sum of 59 Dollars.

To *Ludowic Kuhn*, for boarding part of Captain *Romans's* company of Matrosses, the sum of 59.8 Dollars.

To *William Shepherd*, for two Horses sold by him to General *Lee*, and for sundry Articles of Geers, the sum of 175.7 Dollars.

To *Matthias Slough*, for Provisions for the 7th and 26th Regiments of British Troops from the 26th *February*, to the 21st *March*, the sum of 193.3 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the above Accounts be paid.

Lord *Sterling* having, agreeable to the order of Congress of the 19th of *March* last, appointed persons to value the Boat of *Michael Kearney jun.* and transmitted to Congress the Valuation by them made, amounting to 725 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the same be paid to the said *Michael Kearney*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Apr. 10.

WEDNESDAY, *April 10.* 1776.

Two Letters of the 1st from General *Washington* were laid before Congress and read: Also a Letter of the 8th from *John Connoly*.

*Resolved*

*Resolved,*

*Apr. 10.*

That the Letter from General *Washington* be referred to a Committee of the whole Congress.

The Committee to whom the report on *Indian Affairs* in the Middle Department, and the Petition of Captain *White Eyes* were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon

*Resolved,*

That the Commissioners for *Indian* affairs in the Middle Department, or any one of them, be desired to employ for reasonable Salaries a Minister of the Gospel, to reside among the *Delaware* Indians, and instruct them in the Christian Religion; a Schoolmaster to teach their Youth Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic; also a Blacksmith to do the Work of the *Indians* in the Middle Department.

*Resolved,*

That the Commissioners for *Indian* affairs in the Middle Department, be desired to provide at the expence of the United Colonies for the entertainment of the Sachems and Warriors of the *Indians*, and their Attendants and Messengers, with the accustomed hospitality, when they come to *Pittsburgh* to Treat or give Intelligence of public Affairs, or upon a Visit.

*Resolved,*

That the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs, be desired to acquaint the *Indians* in their respective Departments, that Congress have formed

*Apr. 10.* a Plan for importing Goods to supply their necessities.

That the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* be desired to enquire and report the Cause of the Discontent of the *Indians* in the Middle Department, what Measures may be pursued to restore Quiet and Harmony, and to use their utmost Endeavours in the mean Time to prevent Hostilities.

*Resolved,*


That although the prosperity of *Dartmouth College* in the Colony of *New Hampshire*, is a desirable Object, it is neither seasonable nor prudent to contribute towards its Relief or Support out of the public Treasury.

*Resolved,*

That so soon as conveniently may be, a Treaty be held between the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Middle Department, and the Nations of *Indians* to the Westward; and that the said Commissioners be desired to appoint the Time and Place of Meeting for that purpose, and give the *Indians* information thereof.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to Captain *George Morgan*, *Aeneas Mackay*, Esq. and Captain *John Neville*, to adjust and determine all Matters of Difference between *Coquataginta* or Captain *White Eyes*, and Messrs. *Bernard Gratz*, and *Michael Gratz*; and that the Arbitrators, in case either of the Parties, to whom it is recommended to submit to their Award, shall refuse to abide thereby, report the reasons of such Refusal with a  
State

State of the Case, and any other Matters they *Apr. 10.*  
shall think fit, to Congress. 

That Disputes which shall arise between any of the White People and the *Indians* in their dealings, (if the latter will consent) be determined by Arbitrators chosen, one by each of the parties, and another by the Commissioners for *Indian* affairs, or when they are absent, by the Agent in the Department where the *Indian* party resides.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of an Agent for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, and the Ballots being taken and examined,

*George Morgan*, Esq; was elected.

*Resolved*,

That the sum of 300 Dollars be presented to Captain *White Eyes*.

*Resolved*,

That *George Morgan*, Esq; the Agent for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, be empowered to purchase for Captain *White Eyes*, two Horses with two Saddles and Bridles, and that the Treasurers be directed to pay to the said *George Morgan*, a sum not exceeding 100 Dollars for defraying the Expences thereof.

*Resolved*,

That the following Speech be delivered to Captain *White Eyes* to-morrow morning.

*Brother Captain White Eyes,*

“ We have not been unmindful of our promise made to you and your Nation the 16th of *December*,  
*ber,*

*Apr. 10. ber.* We now thank you for your Speech to us  
the 2d of last Month.

*Brothers the Delawares.*

“ At the Council Fire, at *Pittsburgh*, last Fall, and since by our Brother Captain *White Eyes*, who hath been all the Winter with us, you requested our assistance to promote Peace and useful Knowledge among you, particularly the Knowledge of the Christian Religion. We rejoice Brothers, to find you thus disposed, and will, as early as we can, provide a suitable Minister and Schoolmaster, and a sober Man to instruct you in Agriculture. These things we agree to do, Brothers, at your request, and to convince you, that we wish to advance your Happiness, and that there may be a lasting Union between us, and that as you express it, we may become one People. The introduction of useful Arts among you will be effected; we apprehend, by encouraging Handicraft men to settle and reside in your country. The Method of doing this, must be left to your discretion.

*“ Brothers,*

“ We desire you will make it known among all the *Indian* Nations to the Westward, that we are determined to cultivate Peace and Friendship with them, and that we will endeavour by making the best Regulations in our Power, to prevent any of our People wronging them in any Manner, or taking their Lands; and that we will strive to put the Trade between us on such a Footing as will secure the Peace and promote the Interest of all Parties; and we expect, that all the Wise Men of every

every *Indian Nation*, will use their Influence for Apr. 10.  
the same Purpose.

“ *Brothers,*

“ We have named *George Morgan*, Esq; as Agent under our Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Middle Department, and we desire you will confer with him on whatever Business you may have with us. We hope you will inform him of all Public Matters. We recommend him to your Friendship.

“ *Brothers,*

“ You tell us, that your Uncles, our Brothers, the *Wiandots* have given your Nation a large Tract of Country, comprehended between the River *Ohio* on the South, the West Branch of the River *Muskingham* and *Sandusky* on the West, Lake *Erie* on the North, and *Presqui Isle* on the East.

“ *Brothers,*

“ Hearken to our Advice. As we are informed that your Uncles our Brothers the Six Nations claim most of those Lands, we recommend it to you to obtain their Approbation of this Grant to you from the *Wiandots* in public Council, and have it put on Record. Such a Step will prevent Uneasiness and Jealousy on their Part, and continue the Confidence and Friendship which subsists between you and them. We wish to promote the lasting Peace and Happiness of all our Brothers the *Indian Nations*, who live with us on this great Island. As far as your Settlement and Security

*Apr. 10.* Security may depend upon us, you may be assured of our Protection. We shall take all the Care in our Power, that no Interruption or Disturbance be given you by our People, nor shall any of them be suffered by Force or Fraud to deprive you of any of your Lands, or to settle them without a fair Purchase from you, and your free Consent. If contrary to our Intention, any Injury should be offered to you by any of our People, inform us of it, and we shall be always ready to procure you Satisfaction and Redress."

" *Brother Captain White Eyes,*

" We desire you will inform your Nation, your Uncles the Six Nations, and *Wiandots*, your Grandchildren the *Shawanese*, and all the other Nations, what you have seen and heard among us, and exhort them to keep fast hold of the Covenant Chain of Friendship, which we have so lately repaired and strengthened. As you are now about to depart, we present you with some Money to buy Cloaths and Necessaries, and pay your Expences, and we wish you a good Journey, and bid you farewell.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to morrow.

THURSDAY, *April 11, 1776.*

*Apr. 11.* A Letter of the 7th, from General Putnam at *New York*, with sundry Papers enclosed was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*



Resolved,

Apr. 11.

That an order for 10,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *Carpenter Wharton* Commissary, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, he to be accountable.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To Lieutenant-colonel *Zedwitz* for Expences in curing a wound received by him in falling from the Walls of *Quebec*, and his Expences from thence to *Philadelphia*, the sum of 255.6 Dollars.

To *John Hales* for Carriage hire, &c. for the Commissioners going to *Canada*, the sum of 223 Dollars.

To *Oliver Woolcot*, Esq; for his Expences in attending a Treaty with the Six Nations at *Albany*, the sum of 60 Dollars.

To Dr. *Jonathan Potts*, for attending the Prisoners at *Reading*, the sum of 76.6 Dollars; and for Medicines, &c. provided for the Troops in the Middle Department, the sum of 134.6 Dollars, amounting together to the sum of 211.2 Dollars.

To the the following Persons for Boarding General *Lee's* Guard, viz.

|                             |            |              |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| <i>Richard Jacobs</i> ,     | the sum of | 6.4 Dollars. |
| <i>William Staddleman</i> , |            | 7.4          |
| <i>William M'Dowell</i> ,   |            | 3.4          |
| <i>Lawrence Fegan</i> ,     |            | 8.4          |
| <i>Jacob Wyncoop</i> ,      |            | 13.6         |
| <i>Michael Gallagher</i> ,  |            | 1.8          |
| <i>John Kerlin</i> ,        |            | 8.6          |
| <i>Charles Stultz</i>       |            | 8.7          |

Apr. 11. To Captain *Long*, for so much advanced by him to Captain *John Nelson*, of one of the Rifle Companies, the sum of 10.7 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee of Claims allow for the support of the Hostages sent by General *Schuyler* from *Tryon* County, the sum of two Dollars a-Week.

*Resolved,*

That two new Members be added to the Cannon Committee, in the room of two who are absent.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Clinton* and Mr. *Whipple*.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the Delegates of *Maryland* with one Ton of Powder for the use of the Inhabitants of the eastern Shore in that Colony.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be requested to provide proper Barracks or Quarters for such of the Continental Troops as may be from time to time in the City of *Philadelphia*.

*Resolved,*

That the Commanding Officer at *New York*, be directed to discharge the Militia of *New Jersey* who are in the Pay of the Continent.

That the Commanding Officer at *New York* be directed

directed to discharge the whole or such parts of *Apr. 11.* the Militia of *New York* and *Connecticut*, now in the Pay of the Continent, as the public Service will permit.

A Petition from *Eliphalet Dyer* and *William Williams* in behalf of the Colony of *Connecticut*, was presented to Congress and read, setting forth that the Colony has advanced large sums of Money for the Continent over and above what have been paid them, that though they have used their utmost diligence they have not yet been able to prepare a full state of their Accounts to lay before Congress, and as their Treasury is exhausted, and the Colony and the public Interest in danger of suffering for want of Supplies, praying that the Congress would advance to the Colony the sum of fifty thousand Pounds lawful Money, in part of their advances.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 166,666.2 Dollars be advanced to the Colony of *Connecticut*, on Account of their Advances for the Service of the Continent, the said Colony to be accountable.

Captain *White Eyes* being called in, the Speech was delivered to him, and the Money paid.

*Resolved,*

That fifty Dollars be paid to *Isaac Stille* the Interpreter.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the Conventions and Committees or Councils of Safety of *Virginia* and *North Carolina*, to provide for the maintenance and security of the Prisoners made of the  
Enemy

*Apr. 11.* Enemy in their Colonies, agreeable to the regulations of Congress for the support of Prisoners, and that the Expence thereof be defrayed by the Continent.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire into the truth of the report respecting Governor's Tryon's exacting an Oath from Persons going by the Packet, and to ascertain the Fact by affidavits taken before a Chief Justice, or other chief Magistrate.

The Members chosen Mr. Jay, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Wilson.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of thirty Dollars be advanced to John Harkefs, a wounded Soldier, who was discharged at Cambridge without any Pay.

Information being given that Mr. Hewes, a Prisoner, has been defrauded of a large quantity of Goods.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire into the truth of this matter, and report to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. McKean, Mr. Huntington, and Mr. Duane.

The Committee, to whom the Petition of John Secord was referred, brought in their report which was read.

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the several Assemblies,

Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees <sup>or Apr. 11.</sup> of Councils of Safety of the United Colonies, to use their best Endeavours in communicating to foreign Nations the resolutions of Congress relative to Trade.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *April* 12. 1776.

A Letter of the 21st *March* from *W. H. Drayton* <sup>Apr. 12.</sup>, President of the Convention of *South Carolina*, with a Copy of the Act of Parliament prohibiting all Trade and Commerce with the *American Colonies*. Also,

A Letter of the 10th instant from Col. *John Haslet*, inclosing an Account of the Engagement between the Detachment of the *Deleware* Battalion at *Lewes*, and a Tender of the *Roeback*; also informing that another Company is wanted at *Lewes Town*, and that he has ordered one to march thither, were laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That the conduct of Colonel *Haslet* in ordering another Company to *Lewes Town*, be approved.

The Committee on Qualifications having recommended *James Hunter* as a fit Person to fill the oldest Vacancy of second Lieutenant, and *Joel Westcoat* as a suitable Person to fill the second oldest Vacancy of second Lieutenant in the third *Pennsylvania* Battalion,

*Resolved,*

*Apr. 12. Resolved,*



That Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved,*

That the Treasurers be directed to pay Mr. *Price* the sum of 16,000 Dollars in Specie in part of the sum ordered to be advanced to him and Mr. *Haywood*.

A Petition from Colonel *James Easton* was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Duane*, and Mr. *Alexander*.

*Resolved,*

That the Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees or Councils of Safety of the Colonies respectively, in which Prisoners are or shall chuse, or be appointed to reside, be impowered to remove such Prisoners from Place to Place within the same Colonies, as often as to such Assemblies, Conventions, or Committees or Councils of Safety respectively, it shall seem proper, having regard to the former resolutions of Congress concerning Prisoners.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *Alexander* be appointed a Member of the Marine Committee, in the room of Mr. *Chase* who is absent.

A Memorial

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A Memorial from the *Scotch* Hostages was pre-<sup>Apr. 12.</sup>  
sented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to the Committee of  
Claims.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is  
due,

To *Henry Holler*, for Rifles and Cash furnished to  
Captain *Nelson's* Company of Rifle Men, the  
sum of 364.8 Dollars to be charged to said  
Company; and for Provisions for said Compa-  
ny, the sum of 171.3 Dollars, and for neces-  
saries provided for Prisoners at *Reading*, 1203  
Dollars, and for his Pay as Quarter Master in  
procuring Provisions, 59 Dollars, for Provisi-  
ons made for receiving the Prisoners from *John-*  
*stown*, the sum of 240 Dollars; for Expresses  
and incidental Charges, the sum of 62.9 Dollars,  
the whole amounting to 2101 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the same be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to morrow.

SATURDAY, *April* 13. 1776.

*Resolved,*

That an Order for 20,000 Dollars be  
drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *James Mease*  
Commissary for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Batta-  
lions, he to be accountable.

<sup>Apr. 13.</sup>

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Mr.

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Apr. 13. Mr. *Mease* having applied to Congress for Advice how to conduct himself in paying the sixth *Pennsylvania* Battalion.

*Resolved,*

That the Queries propounded by Mr. *Mease* be referred to the Committee for procuring Fire Arms.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Robert Erwin*, the Ballance of his Account for Waggon hire, the sum of 436 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the same be paid,

A Petition from the Committees of the Townships of *Walpack*, *SandyStone*, and *Montague*, in the County of *Suffex* in *New Jersey*, was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred to the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs, who are Members of Congress.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Resolution for the Sale and Consumption of the Teas now in these Colonies, brought in the same, which was read and agreed to, as follows :

Whereas by the third Article of the Association entered into by the late Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, on the 24th Day of *October*, in the Year of our Lord 1774, it was agreed, that from  
that



that Day the Inhabitants of the United Colonies <sup>Apr. 13.</sup>  
“ would not purchase nor use any Tea imported  
on Account of the *East India* Company, or any  
on which a Duty had been or should be paid, and  
from and after the first Day of *March* then next  
following, they would not purchase or use any *East  
India* Tea whatever :” And whereas it has been re-  
presented to this Congress, that the time as afore-  
said limited for the consumption of the Tea then on  
hand was too short; whereby many zealous friends  
to the *American* cause, who had imported large  
quantities of that commodity, with design not  
merely to advance their Fortunes, but to counter-  
act the Plan then pursued by the Ministry, and *In-  
dia* Company, to introduce and sell in these Colo-  
nies Tea subject to Duty, are likely to become great  
Sufferers; the greater part of the Estates of many  
of them being vested in that Article, and they by  
that means rendered incapable not only of paying  
their Debts and maintaining their Families, but al-  
so of vigorously exerting themselves in the Service  
of their Country: And whereas it was originally  
the design of Congress, that all *India* Tea, which  
had been imported agreeable to the Tenor of the  
said Association, might be sold and consumed, but  
the time limited for that Purpose proving too short.

*Resolved,*

That all *India* Tea imported as afore-  
said, expressly excepting all Teas imported by or on  
Account of the *East India* Company, now remain-  
ing on hand in these Colonies be sold and used.

And whereas from the future importation of  
Tea being prohibited, some Tea-holders may be  
tempted

*Apr. 13.* tempted to avail themselves of the scarcity which will be occasioned by it, and exact exorbitant Prices for an Article of little real Value in itself, and which owes its worth to an habit in many respects pernicious to the Inhabitants of these Colonies.

*Resolved,* therefore,

That *Bohea* Tea ought not to be sold by retail in the smallest Quantities at a higher Price in any Colony, than at the rate of three fourth parts of a Dollar per Pound; and other Teas at such a Price as shall be regulated by the Committees of the Town or County, where the Tea is sold; and that all Persons, who shall either give or take a greater price for it, ought to be considered as Enemies to the *American* Cause, and treated accordingly. And it is earnestly recommended to all Committees of Inspection and Observation as well to be vigilant in carrying this resolve into execution, as those which prohibit the importation of *India* Tea from any part of the World, it being the desire of Congress to exclude all Teas, except such as may make part of the Cargoes of Prizes taken by Ships of War or Privateers belonging to these Colonies.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to Lieutenant Colonel *Hartley* one Quarter Cask of Powder, to repay so much by him borrowed for the use of the Continent.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Committee of Safety of *New Jersey*, brought in a Draught, which being read was agreed to.

*Ordered,*

*Ordered,*

That the same be transcribed, signed by the President and transmitted.

*Apr. 10.*

The Committee appointed to consider the Representation and Queries of *James Mease* respecting the sixth Battalion of Troops commanded by Colonel *Irvine*, brought in their report, which was read: Whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That the Certificates of Magistrates or other respectable Inhabitants of the County of *Cumberland*, who have inspected and examined the Companies of the said Battalion, shall in this instance justify the Paymaster in paying such Companies agreeable to the said Certificates, the Muster Master being absent.

That the supernumerary Privates, that have been enlisted and are armed and cloathed, be continued and paid.

That the Officers in the said Battalion be paid for their subsistence since the recruiting Service has been over, at the rates used in other Battalions.

That the Claim of the Ensign in Captain *Wilson's* Company to Pay and Subsistence, from the time of entering into actual Service, be allowed.

*Resolved,*

That the Marine Committee be empowered to Build two Gallies, capable of carrying two 36 or 42 Pounders, to oppose the Enemy's Vessels in Bays and Harbours.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee for casting Cannon

*Apr. 10.* non be directed to contract for the casting forty  
 Howitzers, with a sufficient quantity of Shells.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the applicatton of *James Hughes*, late Town Major of *Montreal*, and now one of the Prisoners of the Thirteen United Colonies, brought in their report ; wherein they represent,

“ That it appears to them that *Mrs. Hughes*, the Wife of the said *James Hughes* on or about the 5th of *February* last, bargained with a certain *Jabez West*, for divers Goods and Merchandize in her Possession at *Montreal*, for which the said *West*, as the said *J. Hughes* alledges, agreed to pay £ 905 : 11 : 9 :  $\frac{3}{4}$  Sterling Money of *Great Britain*, and £ 151 : 1 : 9. *Hallifax* Currency, in Gold and Silver to the said *Hughes*, within eighteen Days from that time, upon which Payment being made, the Goods were to be delivered at *Albany*, to the said *West*, by a certain *John Stevenson* of *Albany* ; to whom they were to be sent at the Expençe of the said *West* : That the said *West* paid to the said *Hughes*, 240 Dollars in part, but it was, as the said *Hughes* alledges, agreed that if the residue of the Money was not paid within the time limited, then the 240 Dollars were to be forfeited, and the Goods not to be delivered ; that the Goods arrived at *Albany*, and were in the possession of *Mr. Stevenson*, who, on the 11th of *March* last, by some means or other, was induced to deliver the Goods to *West*, though he paid no Money ; that the said *West* gave a Bond to the said *Stevenson*, payable to the said *Hughes*, for £ 1609 : 18 : 8 Continental Currency,

rency, on the 9th of *April* instant, without any au-<sup>Apr. 14.</sup>thority from the said *Hughes*, as he alledges; that the said *West* proceeded with the Goods, immediately on the receipt of them, to some of the eastern Colonies, and it is apprehended to *Connecticut*. Upon the whole, the Committee are of opinion, that the said *Hughes* may probably lose his Debt from *West*, without the interposition of Congress, or their permission to him to go in pursuit of the said *West*." Whereupon

*Resolved,*

That Governor *Trumbull* of the Colony of *Connecticut*, be desired to direct the most effectual Method, according to law, to be taken for securing the Person of *Jabez West*, or his effects to the Value of the Debt due to *James Hughes*, if either can be found in his Government; and to see that justice be done in the Premises.

Adjourned to ten clock on *Monday* next.

MONDAY, *April* 15, 1776.

A Letter of the 4th from General *Washington*,<sup>Apr. 15.</sup> enclosing a Letter from Governor *Cooke*, and an Account of the Powder supplied the Army at *Cambridge*, by the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, from the 10th of *June* last: Also a Letter of the 2d from General *Schuyler*, with eight Papers enclosed, being laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That the said Letters with the Papers enclosed, be referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *S. Adams*.

The

*Apr. 15.* The Committee to whom the Petition from the Committees of *Walpack*, &c. was referred, brought in their report, which was agreed to. Whereupon,  
*Resolved,*

That an order be drawn by the Chairman of the Secret Committee upon *Henry Wisner*, in favour of the Petitioners for 200 lb. of Powder they paying for the same.

That 1000 Flints be delivered to the Petitioners.

That the Petitioners be desired to send *Garret Broadhead*, Esq. to the nearest *Indian* settlement, in order to discover whether any uneasiness subsists among the *Indians* in that part of the Country; and if it subsists, from what cause it arises.

That a Letter be written by the President of the Congress to General *Schuyler*, to inform him of the apprehension of the Inhabitants on the western Boundaries of *New Jersey* from the *Indians*, to request him to direct proper inquiries to be made, whether there be any foundation for such apprehensions.

The Congress taking into consideration the report of the Committee on the Petition of *John Seccord*.

*Resolved,*

That a certified Copy of the said Petition be transmitted to the Governor of *Connecticut*; that he be requested to cause inquiry to be made into the truth of the Facts therein stated, and if found true, that it be recommended to him to cause restitution to be made to the Petitioner.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

Apr. 15.

That it be again recommended to the settlers at *Wyoming* and the *Susquennah* River, as well those under *Pennsylvania* as those under *Connecticut*, to cultivate harmony, to consider themselves as jointly interested in the event of the *American* Cause, and not by mutual acts of Violence or Oppression, to injure that Union, that happily subsists between all the Colonies, and on which their welfare so much depends,

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the Inhabitants of *Monmouth* County in *New Jersey*, with 300 lb. of Powder, they paying for the same.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of three be appointed to bring in a Resolution, whereby Persons resident, having Property in *America*, who assist any of the Enemies of the United Colonies in the Capture of Vessels or Goods, may be made liable to make good the damages to the Sufferers.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

A Petition from *Moses Kirkland*, a Prisoner, was presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on the ways and means of

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supplying

*Apr. 15.* supplying the Troops in *Canada*. Whereupon,  
*Resolved,*

That Mr. *R. Morris* be directed to purchase Bills of Exchange to the amount of three thousand Pounds Sterling, and deliver the same to Mr. *Price*, and that Mr. *Morris* be indemnified for any loss that may arise by indorsing them.

That the sum of 13,333  $\frac{1}{3}$  Dollars be advanced to Mr. *Price*, to be employed by him in the service of the Continent, in *Canada*, he to be accountable.

*Resolved,*

That the Officers of the Rifle Battalion, and Independent Rifle Companies, be authorized and directed to recruit the said Battalion and Companies, and enlist the Men as speedily as possible; and that their re-enlistment be for two Years from the expiration of their present Term, liable to be discharged sooner, if Congress shall think proper, upon receiving a Month's pay advance.

A Petition from *Thomas Leaming*, jun. in behalf of the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Cape May*, was presented to Congress and read, setting forth the defenceless state of that part of the Country, and praying for a supply of Powder and Lead, and that two Companies of the Continental Forces may be stationed there.

*Resolved,*

That the Prayer of the Petition be granted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY



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TUESDAY, *April* 16, 1776.

*Apr. 16.*

A Letter of the 9th from Commodore *E. Hopkins*, inclosing a List of the Cannon and Stores brought from *Providence*; and a Letter of the 14th from the Committee of *Baltimore*, inclosing Copies of intercepted Letters from the Secretary of State to Governor *Eden*; Also a Letter of the 8th from General *Thomas*, were laid before Congress and read.

*Ordered,*

That the Secretary publish an Extract of the Letter from Commodore *Hopkins*.

The Congress taking into consideration the Letter from the Committee of *Baltimore*, and the Papers enclosed, came to the following resolutions:

Whereas information has been this day laid before Congress, from which there is great reason to believe that *Robert Eden*, Esq. Governor of *Maryland*, has lately carried on a Correspondence with the *British* Ministry, highly dangerous to the Liberties of *America*.

*Resolved*, therefore,

That the Council of Safety of *Maryland* be earnestly requested immediately to cause the Person and Papers of Governor *Eden* to be seized and secured, and such of the Papers as relate to the American dispute, without delay conveyed safely to Congress; and that Copies of the intercepted Letters from the Secretary of State be inclosed to the said Council of Safety.

*Resolved,*

*Apr. 16. Resolved,*

That the Council of Safety of *Maryland* be requested to cause the Person and Papers of *Alexander Ross* to be immediately seized and secured, and that the Papers be sent safely to Congress.

And to prevent the said *Alexander Ross* having any opportunity to escape.

*Resolved,*

That the like request be made to the Committees of Observation for *Baltimore* and *Frederic* Counties in *Maryland*, in one of which Counties the said *Alexander Ross* probably now is.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Isaac Melchior*, for expences from *Montreal* to *Philadelphia*, including a part of *St. Luke La Corne's* expences to *Albany*, the sum of 34.7 Dollars.

To *Leonard Melchior* for boarding *M'Donald* twenty Days the sum of 16 Dollars.

To *William Chew*, for riding express to *North Carolina* and back, including ferriages, the sum of 90 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *J. Hughes*, Esq.

To *Samuel Purviance*, Jun. the sum of 133.3 Dollars, Money advanced by Colonel *Charles Beatty*, to Captain *James Grier*, and that the same ought to be paid and charged to the said *James Grier*.

To *Anthony Tricker*, for boarding *Donald M'Donald* and others, of the *Scots* Prisoners taken by General

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General *Schuyler*, near *Johnstown*, the sum of *Apr. 16.*  
150 Dollars.

To *Peletiah Webster*, for purchasing Goods for the  
Continent, including some incidental Charges,  
the sum of 66.3 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed  
to supply the Inhabitants of *Monmouth* County with  
500 Flints.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a  
Clerk or Assistant to the Auditor General.

*Mr. William Webb* was elected.

A Letter of the 15th from *H. Beaumont*, Sur-  
geon of the 26th Regiment, was laid before Con-  
gress and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to the Committee  
on Prisoners.

*Resolved,*

That the sum of 1000 Dollars be paid  
to Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood* in consideration of  
their extraordinary services in *Canada*.

Whereas much inconvenience may be derived to  
the Public from Committees, others than the Com-  
mittee of Safety in each Colony, on the public Post  
Roads, stopping and opening the Mails, and de-  
taining Letters from the Constitutional Post.

*Resolved,*

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*Apr. 16. Resolved,*

That no Committee, but the Council or Committee of Safety in each Colony, or such Persons as they shall on extraordinary occasions authorize, shall stop the Constitutional Post, open the Mail, or detain any Letters therefrom.

*Resolved,*

That the President write to Commodore *Hopkins*, and direct him to send a complete List and state of the Stores taken and brought from *Providence*, with the Sizes, &c. And in case he should have left *New London*, that Governor *Trumbull* be desired to order a List of the Stores left at *New London* by Commodore *Hopkins* to be made out and transmitted to Congress.

*Resolved,*

That the Cannon and such other of the Stores as are not necessary for the Fleet be landed and left at *New London*, and that such of the Cannon and Wheels as Governor *Trumbull* shall direct, may be employed for the defence of that Harbour, during the pleasure of the Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, *April 17, 1776.*

*Apr. 17.* The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *John Avery, jun.* for riding exprefs from Commodore *Hopkins* and back again, the sum of 40.7 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the same be paid.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

*Apr. 17.*

That the Marine Committee be instructed to recommend to Congress proper Persons for Commission Officers for the Frigates now building, and that the Warrant Officers be appointed by the said Committee, and that they fit said Frigates for Sea with all expedition.

That the Marine Committee recommend to Congress proper Persons to be Agents for Prizes in the several Colonies.

That a Bounty of eight Dollars be allowed by the Public to the Owner of every *American* Vessel for every able Seamen that he shall import into the United Colonies, over and above the Number the said Vessel carried out; and that foreigners importing able Seamen over and above the Ship's Company, and discharging them in the *American* Ports, shall be intitled to the same Bounty.

*Resolved,*

That the nomination or appointment of Captains or Commanders of Continental Vessels shall not establish rank, which is to be settled by Congress before Commissions are granted.

The Congress having proceeded to the election of Captains for the two Frigates building in *Massachusetts-Bay*.

*William Manly,* and  
*Isaac Cozneau* were elected.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be empowered

*Apr. 17.* Resolved to give Orders for the arming and manning abroad any of the Ships or Vessels employed in the importation of Cargoes for the Continental Account; the expences and Charges of such Armaments to be paid by the said Committee; they receiving for the public Service, on the arrival of every Vessel, all the Arms, Ammunition, and Stores.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be impowered to import Cargoes of Salt on the Continental Account, in such Ships or Vessels as they employ to carry outward Cargoes, and are obliged to insure on their return.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be requested to permit *John Young, jun.* and *Johnston Smith* to carry to *Virginia* all such Arms as they have already purchased, or shall purchase in *Pennsylvania*, for the use of the Continental Army in the said Colony of *Virginia*, before the first day of *May* next; not to exceed one thousand Stand in the whole.

*Resolved,*

That the Secret Committee be directed to supply *Mr. Thomas Leaming* with 200 lb. of Powder, for the Militia of *Cape May*, he paying for the same.

*Resolved,*

That the Commanding Officer at *New York* be directed to order two Companies of Colonel *Dayton's* Battalion to march to *Cape May*, and there to remain till farther orders.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

That the Petition of Dr. *Jackson* be referred to the Committee of Claims.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *April* 18, 1776.

A Letter of the 15th from General *Washington*. *Apr. 18.*  
And,

A Letter of the 7th of *November* last, from the rev. *Samuel Langden*, accompanied with a Letter from General *Putnam*, and Colonels *Glover*, *Bridge*, *Fry*, and *Prescot*. Also,

A Letter from *James Warren*, Esq. Pay-Master General, desiring leave to resign, were laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That the said Letters be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Read*, Mr. *Clinton* and Mr. *Braxton*.}

A Letter from *Elizabeth Seymour*, Widow of the late Master of the *Cabbot*, were laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That it be referred to the Marine Committee.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee on *Indian Affairs*

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be

*Apr. 18.* be directed to prepare and report a Draught of Instructions to *George Morgan*, Esq. Agent under the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Middle Department.

A Letter of the 6th from Brigadier General *Lewis*, and a Letter of the same date from Major General *Lee*, being received and read, were referred to Mr. *Read*, Mr. *Clinton*, and Mr. *Braxton*.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To Dr. *Samuel Treat*, for Medicine, and for attending the Troops at *Burlington*, the sum of 273.7 Dollars.

To *John Bull*, Esq. for expences in conducting Money to the Camp at *Cambridge*, the sum of 155 Dollars.

To *Jacob Ming* for Waggonage, the sum of 107.5 Dollars.

To *Robert Kennedy*, for necessaries furnished Captain *Morgan's* Company, the sum of 544 Dollars, of which sum 189.2 being for Rifles, Shirts, &c. to be charged to the said Company.

To *Thaddeus Burr*, for Money paid by him for Horse-hire, &c. the sum of 37.2 Dollars, which ought to be charged to *Jacob Heltzheimur*, Express Master.

To fundries, on Certificates produced by *Thomas Johnson*, Esq. for Provisions, &c. for General *Lee's* Guard, the sum of 10.7 Dollars, and for a Rifle delivered to Captain *Cressap's* Company, to be charged to the said Company, the sum of 10.6 Dollars.

To



To *Jane Allen*, for necessaries to several Companies of Continental Troops, the sum of 52.9 Dollars, of which sum 40 Dollars, ought to be charged to the first *Pennsylvania* Battalion, and deducted from the Commissary's Account. Apr. 18.

To Dr. *Hall Jackson*, for his Services as Surgeon, the sum of 130 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Elbridge Gerry*, Esq.

To *William Smith*, for Medicines, Instruments, &c. for the *Deleware* Battalion, the sum of 257.4 Dollars.

To *Timothy Shallor*, for expences in bringing Prisoners from *Egg-Harbour*, the sum of 37.5 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the said Accounts be paid.

The Marine Committee having recommended Gentlemen for Captains of the *Hornet* and *Wasp*, Congress proceeded to an election, and the Ballots being taken and examined.

*William Hallock* was elected Captain of the *Hornet*; and,

*Alexander* Captain of the *Wasp*.

The Committee appointed to consider the Propriety of establishing a War Office, brought in their report, which was read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY,

*Apr. 18.*

FRIDAY, *April 19. 1776.*

A Letter from Governor *Trumbull*, with a Petition from *Noah Philips*, being laid before Congress and read.

*Resolved,*

That they be referred to the Committee on Qualifications.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee of seven be appointed to examine and ascertain the Value of the several Species of Gold and Silver Coins, current in these Colonies, and the proportions they ought to bear to *Spanish Milled Dollars*.

The Members chosen, *Mr. Duane*, *Mr. Wythe*, *Mr. J. Adams*, *Mr. Sherman*, *Mr. Hewes*, *Mr. Johnson*, and *Mr. Whipple*.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Peter Brunner*, for necessaries furnished to Captain *Nelson's* Company by himself and *Abraham Vanhorn*, the sum of 25.2 Dollars, which ought to be charged to Captain *Nelson*.

To *Mary Miller*, for Provisions, &c. furnished to General *Lee's* Guard, the sum of 16.5 Dollars.


To *Jacob Frantz*, for Horse-hire, and carrying Brigadier General *Woedtke's* Baggage to *New-York*, the sum of 47.5 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved,*

That Letters which are directed to any General in the Continental Service, commanding  
in

in a separate Department, be carried free of Post-<sup>Apr. 19.</sup>age, by the Constitutional Post. 

The Committee appointed to prepare Instructions to *George Morgan*, Esq. brought in a draught which being read, was agreed to, as follows :

*To George Morgan, Esq. Agent under the Commissioners for Indian Affairs in the Middle Department.*

*Sir,*

You are required to provide that the great Belt presented to the *Indians* last Fall at *Pittsburgh*, be forwarded with all convenient expedition to the Sachems and Warriors of the Western Nations, and endeavour to the utmost of your Power to convince them of the good wishes and good intentions of Congress for and towards them, and to cultivate Harmony and Friendship between them and the White People, and to give Congress the most early Intelligence of any interruption thereof, or of any disturbance which shall arise, and which you cannot quiet.

Acquaint the *Indians* that Congress have formed the best Plan they could devise to import foreign Goods for their use, and have neglected no probable Means to procure them in time, and if they should not be supplied so soon as they may be wanted, the misfortune is to be ascribed to the common Enemies of them and us, who by obstructing our Trade, as well as in numberless other instances are daily injuring and distressing both ; but that we have well grounded hopes of speedy relief, in expectation of which, and of greater advantages in Prospect,

*Apr. 19.* Prospect, the present inconveniences are born more patiently.

All differences and disputes that shall happen between the *Indians* and White People, you will have adjusted and determined in the mode prescribed by a Resolve of Congress, of which you have a Copy : And you are directed in a particular Manner to prevent as much as you are able, any impositions upon the former by those who deal with them. Treat all those People, with whom you may meet, kindly and hospitably. Inspire them with sentiments of Justice and Humanity, and dispose them to introduce the Arts of civil and social Life, and to encourage the residence of Husbandmen and Handicraft Men among them. Advise Congress from time to time of all Occurrences that may in your opinion deserve their attention.

The Committee to whom General *Washington's* Letter of the 15th Instant, as well as other Letters were referred, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration was agreed to; whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That General *Washington* may order as many of the Cannon and Military Stores, as are not necessary for the Continental Fleet, and which were lately brought into *New London*, by the Commander thereof, to any other place he may think proper; having regard only to the permission of Congress, relative to the defence of the Harbour of *New London*, a Copy of which ought to be sent to General *Washington*, and also a List of the Cannon

Cannon and Stores, as transmitted to Congress. *Apr. 19.*

*Resolved,*

That the resignation of *James Warren*, as Pay-Master General of the Army be accepted and entered accordingly, and that he be informed there are superintendants of the Treasury appointed, to whom he is to render his Accounts and Vouchers.

*Resolved,*

That another Pay-Master General be appointed and that the General be informed thereof.

As it appears from the Certificates of four Colonels of Regiments at *Cambridge*, that the reverend Dr. *Samuel Langdon*, did not only perform the Duty of a Chaplain to their several Regiments, for the space of six Months, for which no other Chaplain had been appointed, but also the Army at large; Therefore,

*Resolved,*

That the said Dr. *Langdon*, having received no compensation for those services, be paid the sum of 300 Dollars.

*Resolved,*

That three Tons of Powder be immediately forwarded to *Virginia*, for the use of the Army in the Southern Department.

*Resolved,*

That General *Washington* be made acquainted with General *Lee's* request of a Company of Artillery, and be desired to furnish him with such a Company, if it may be done consistent with the general good of the Service.

*Resolved,*

*Apr, 19.*

That an immediate supply of Arms, Shoes, Blankets, &c. furnished for the Troops in *Virginia*, and that proper Persons be appointed to procure them, subject to the orders of Congress already entered into.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *Ephraim Blaine* be appointed to purchase a quantity of Blankets not exceeding 5000, and also that he be directed to purchase 5000 pair of Shoes to be sent to *Virginia*, to the Commanding Officer at *Williamsburgh*.

*Resolved,*

That *Monday* next be assigned for the election of a Pay-Master General.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *Thomas Lowry* Commissary, be directed to purchase and forward to General *Schuyler*, with all convenient dispatch, 2000 Barrels of Pork for the use of the Army in *Canada*, and that he be supplied with a sum not exceeding 20,000 Dollars for that Purpose, he to be accountable.

*Resolved,*

That the Committee appointed to confer with Mr. *Price* be directed to bring in a Resolution to enable Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood*, to draw for the Ballance of the Money ordered to be paid them by the Resolutions of the 3d and 16th of this Month.

*Resolved,*

That Messrs. *Du Montesson*, *Hervieux*, *La Marque*, *Du Massaux*, *Shemit*, *Giaffon*, and *Gamelin*, Canadian Prisoners at *Bristol* be permitted to come to *Philadelphia* in order to purchase Cloaths,

Cloaths, and other necessaries, and to remain there *Apr. 19.*  
 ten Days and then return to *Bristol.*

The Committee, to whom were referred the Letter from General *Washington* of the 4th, and the Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 2d of this Month, brought in their report.

The Committee on Prisoners having collected from the Journals the several Resolutions respecting Prisoners, and having made some Amendments therein, submitted the same to Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday.*

MONDAY, *April 22.* 1776.

Sundry Letters received since the adjournment, *Apr. 22.*  
 were laid before Congress and read, *viz.*

One from the Committee of Safety of *Maryland*, dated the 18th.

One from Dr. *Boyd* of the 19th.

One from the Committee of Inspection of *Lancaster* of the 11th.

One from the *Canada* Commissioners, dated *Saratoga*, the 13th.

One from General *Washington* of the 19th.

*Apr. 22.* One from General *Schuyler* of the 12th, enclosing fundry Letters and Papers from *Canada*; And,

One from the Committee of Inspection of *West Augusta*, with fundry Papers enclosed.

*Resolved,*

That the four last with the Papers enclosed, be referred to Mr. *R. Lee*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Braxton*, and Mr. *Johnson*.

*Resolved,*

That the consideration of the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *Maryland*, be postponed till to-morrow.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Resolve respecting Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood*, brought in the same; whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood* be impowered to draw Bills of Exchange on the President of Congress for the sum of 48,358.6 Dollars, payable the 5th of *July* next, in Specie, it being the Ballance of a sum specified in a resolve of the 3d of *April* instant, after deducting 16,000 Dollars, for which they received an order on the Treasurers the 12th. And they are farther impowered to draw Bills as aforesaid, for 1000 Dollars, ordered to be paid them by a resolve of the 6th instant.

*Resolved,*

That the Commissioners gone to *Canada* be desired and impowered to settle the Accounts of Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood* to the 5th of *February* last, or to employ proper Persons to examine the same,



same and compare the Vouchers with the several *Apr. 22.* Articles of said Accounts, and return a Certificate to Congress of the Ballance justly due to Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood* from the United Colonies to that date, with the Vouchers for expenditures and supplies by orders of General *Montgomery* and General *Wooster*.

*Resolved,*

That the said Commissioners be requested to return to Congress a List of such Persons as are accountable to the United Colonies for any part of the Articles or Expenditures comprised in Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood's* Accounts, with the respective sum such Person is chargeable with, and deliver Copies thereof to the Commanding Officers, that the proper deductions may be made from the Pay of the Officers and Men.

*Resolved,*

That an Order for 1000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. *Samuel Fairlamb*, for the use of Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion, he to be accountable.

The Committee on qualifications having recommended Mr. *Jacob Weaver*, to an Ensigncy which is vacant in the third *Pennsylvania* Battalion.

*Resolved,*

That he be appointed, and that a Commission be accordingly granted to him.

The several Matters referred to this day being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to morrow.

TUESDAY,

*Apr. 23.*  


TUESDAY, *April 23. 1776.*

A Letter of the 12th from Major General *Ward* being received and read, repeating his desire for leave to resign.

*Resolved,*

That the resignation of Major General *Ward*, and of Brigadier General *Fry* be accepted, and that the President inform them thereof by Letter.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Robert Erwin*, for Waggonage, the sum of 873.8 Dollars.

To *John Dunn*, the Ballance in full due to Colonel *Heard's* Battalion, for their Pay and Subsistence, on the Expedition to *Long Island*, the sum of 24,53.7 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the same be paid.

The Marine Committee having agreeable to the orders of Congress recommended Gentlemen to be Agents for Prizes in the several Colonies.

*Resolved,*

That Captain *John Bradford* be appointed for the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Daniel Tillinghast* for *Rhode Island*, *Nathaniel Shaw*, jun. for *Connecticut*, *Jacobus Vanzantz* for *New York*, *John Nixon*, and *John Maxwell Nesbit* for *Pennsylvania*, *William Lux* for *Maryland*, *John Tazewell* for *Virginia*; *Cornelius Hornet* for *Wilmington*,

*Richard*

*Richard Ellis for Newbern, and Robert Smith for Apr. 22, Edentown in North Carolina, with power to each to appoint one or more Deputies, if necessary.*

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Washington*, General *Schuyler*, and the Letters from *Canada* and *Pittsburgh* were referred, brought in their report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That the President signify to Colonel *Hazen* the approbation of Congress for his Letter, and attention to the public Good.

*Resolved,*

That 300,000 Dollars be immediately sent to General *Schuyler*, for supplying and paying the Army in *Canada*.

*Resolved,*

That the Commissioners of Congress in *Canada*, be desired to publish an Address to the People of *Canada*, signifying, that Congress has been informed of injuries offered by our People to some of them; expressing our resentment at such Misconduct, assuring them of our attachment to their security; inviting them to state their grievances to our Commissioners, and promising ample Redress to them, and exemplary Punishment to the Offenders.

*Resolved,*

That Instructions be sent to the Commissioners to cause Justice to be done to the *Canadians*, agreeable to the Tenor of the above Resolve.

*Resolved,*

That the Commanding Officer in *Canada*,

*Apr. 22. da*, be directed to be very attentive to Military Discipline, and inflict exemplary Punishment on all those who violate the Military Regulations established by Congress.

*Resolved,*

That General *Washington* be directed to send six Battalions into *Canada* from the Army at *New York*.

*Resolved,*

That a Letter be written by the President to General *Washington*, requesting his opinion whether any farther additional Troops are necessary to be sent for the reduction of *Quebec*, and for the security of *Canada*, and if he shall think more Troops necessary, whether they can with safety be spared from the Army now in *New-York*.

*Resolved,*

That if any of the Troops from *New-Jersey* or *Pennsylvania*, which were raised at five Dollars a Month, be sent to *Canada*, they shall be allowed at the rate of six Dollars and two thirds of a Dollar a Month, from the time they begin their March.

*Resolved,*

That the farther consideration of the report be post-poned till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY,

A P R I L, 1776.

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WEDNESDAY, *April* 24. 1776.

*Apr. 24.*  
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A Memorial from the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* was presented to Congress and read.

Resolved,

That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *Duane*, and Mr. *Alexander*.

Mr. *R. Morris* reported that in pursuance of the order of Congress, he has purchased and delivered to Mr. *James Price* Bills of Exchange to the amount of three thousand pounds Sterling, for which he produced Mr. *Price's* receipt.

Resolved,

That an order for 14,800 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. *R. Morris* in full for the above Bills of Exchange.

Resolved,

That the Committee appointed to confer with Mr. *Price*, be directed to draw up Instructions to him, for his government in disposing and laying out the Money put into his hands.

Resolved,

That Mr. *Trumbull* the Commissary General be directed to provide and forward to General *Schuyler*, two thousand Barrels of Pork, with all possible dispatch, for the use of the Continental Army in *Canada*, and that the said Commissary be supplied with a sum not exceeding 20,000 Dollars for that purpose, he to be accountable for the same.

Resolved,

Apr. 24. *Resolved,*

That Mr. *Alfop*, Mr. *Sherman*, and Mr. *Lewis* be requested to purchase and forward with all convenient dispatch, to General *Schuyler*, for the use of the Continental Army in *Canada*, 10,000 Pair of Shoes, 10,000 Pair of Stockings; and that 15,000 Dollars be advanced to them for those purposes, they to be accountable.

Resolved,

That a Letter be written to General *Schuyler* to inform him of the ten additional Battalions lately ordered for *Canada*, and of the 4000 Barrels of Pork, and the 10,000 Pair of Shoes, and 10,000 Pair of Stockings, ordered by Congress to be sent to him; and to desire him to pursue the best means for furnishing such other necessary Articles of cloathing and food as may be wanting for the Continental Army in *Canada*, having regard to such of these as Mr. *Price* the Commissary in that Province can supply there: Also that General *Schuyler* be desired to inform the President what quantity of Gun-powder he has received for *Canada* since the first of *January* last, and that he continue, as hitherto, to give the earliest notice to Congress of the occasion for further supplies of this and other necessaries that may be wanting, and not in his power to procure.

Resolved,

That the Secret Committee be directed to forward from Mr. *Wisner's* and Mr. *Livingston's* Powder Mills, five Tons of Powder to General *Schuyler*, to be by him forwarded to *Canada*.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To

To *John Gibson*, Agent appointed by the Commis-^{Apr. 24.}ioners for *Indian Affairs*, for fundry services in the Middle Department by order of the Commissioners, the sum of 377.9 Dollars.

To *John Davis* for Waggonage, for the 6th *Pennsylvania* Battalion, the sum of 60 Dollars.

To *Furman* and *Hunt*, for Provisions, &c. for the Prisoners at *Trenton*, the sum of 183.8 Dollars.

To *Duncan M'Donald*, the sum of 15.8 Dollars, of which sum 13.6 Dollars ought to be charged to Captain *Hendrick's* Company, and 2.2 Dollars to Captain *Cluggage's* Company, for Goods furnished to the said Companies; and that the same ought to be paid to *Ephraim Blaine*, Esq.

To *Margaret Smith*, for nursing two Men in the Small-pox, belonging to Captain *Benezet's* Company, the sum of 24 Dollars.

Ordered,

That the said Accounts be paid.

The Convention of *South-Carolina* having appointed Delegates to represent that Colony in Congress the Credentials of their appointment were presented to Congress and read, as follows :

“ In CONGRESS, *Charlestown, South-Carolina*,
Feb. 16. 1776.

Resolved,

That *Thomas Lynch*, *John Rutledge*, *Edward Rutledge*, *Arthur Middleton*, and *Thomas Heyward, jun.* Esqrs. be, and they are hereby appointed and fully authorised to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress, for one Year next ensuing.

E e

March

Apr. 24.

March 23. 1776.

Resolved,

That the Delegates of this Colony in Continental Congress, or a Majority of such of them as shall at any time be present in the said Congress, or any one of the said Delegates, if no more than one shall be present, be, and they and he are, and is hereby authorized and impowered, for and in behalf of this Colony, to concert, agree to, and execute every Measure, which they or he, together with a Majority of the Continental Congress, shall judge necessary for the defence, security, interest, and welfare of this Colony in particular, and of *America* in general.

Resolved,

That another Delegate be forthwith chosen by Ballot by this Congress, to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress, in addition to, and with as full Powers in all respects as the Delegates already chosen have, and are invested with. The Congress then proceeded to Ballot for said Delegate, and *Thomas Lynch, jun. Esq.* appearing to be, and being declared duly chosen;

Resolved,

That *Thomas Lynch, jun. Esq.* be, and he is hereby appointed a sixth Delegate from this Colony to represent the same in the Continental Congress.

*A true Copy.*PETER TIMOTHY, *Sec.*

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the whole to take into consideration General

neral *Washington's* Letter of the 27th of *March*, *Apr. 24.*
 and after some time spent thereon, the President
 resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported,
 that the Committee have had under consideration
 the Letter referred to them, but not having come
 to any determination thereon, desired him to
 move for leave to sit again.

Resolved,

That Congress will to-morrow resolve
 itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into
 their farther consideration the Letter from Gene-
 ral *Washington* of the 27th of *March*, and the Peti-
 tion inclosed therein.

The other Matters to this day referred, being
 postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, *April 25.* 1776.

Two letters from General *Washington* of the 22d *Apr. 25.*
 and 23d, were laid before Congress and read.

Resolved,

That they be referred to a Committee
 of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, Mr.
J. Adams, and Mr. *Hewes*.

Resolved,

That an order for 2000 Dollars be
 drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Ephraim*
Blaine,

Apr. 25. *Blaine*, Esq; for the Purpose of purchasing Shoes and Blankets for the Continental Troops in *Virginia*, he to be accountable.

The Committee on Qualifications having recommended *Thomas Holland* to be a Second Lieutenant in the *Delaware* Battalion, in the Room of *James M'Donnough* deceased, and *John Corse* Ensign, in the Room of *Thomas Holland*.

Resolved,

That they be accepted, and that Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

The Committee to whom the Petition of *Noah Philips* was referred, brought in their Report, which was agreed to, whereupon

Resolved,

That the Committee of Inspection of the city of *Albany* be requested to adjust Mr. *Noah Philips*'s account of services performed at *Ticonderoga*; and that Mr. *Noah Philips* be allowed and paid for his further services, including those of Contractor from the Time of his joining General *Montgomery*, at the Rate of *One Dollar* for each day, until he quitted the Service, and an equivalent to a Captain's rations during the said Time, provided he has not already them; the latter Account to be settled by General *Schuyler*, who is requested to pay to the said *Noah Philips*, what may appear to be due to him for the Whole of his Services aforesaid.

The Committee to whom the Letter from Lord *Sterling* of the 10th of *March* last, with the Papers

pers therein inclosed, was referred, brought in *Apr. 26.*
their Report, which was read.

Ordered,

To lie on the table.

On application from the Committee of *Lower Pennsneck* in the County of *Salem* in *New-Jersey*

Resolved,

That the Secret Committee be directed to sell to the said Committee 75 lb of Gunpowder.

Resolved,

That a Copy of the intercepted Letter from *John Butler* at *Niagara*, dated the 29th of *February*, be sent to General *Schuyler*.

Resolved,

That a Copy of the Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the Truth and Foundation of the Story "that the *Indians* have been invited by Governor *Penn* to come to *Philadelphia*" be sent to General *Schuyler*; and that General *Schuyler* be directed to cause the Person to be arrested, who pretended to have carried such invitation to the *Indians*.

The Committee of claims reported, that there is due for the Expences of General *Lee's* Guard, the Sum of 10.8 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Timothy Matlock*.

On a Draught drawn by *Ephraim Blaine*, Esq; on the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the
Middle

Apr. 25—Middle Department, in favour of *Samuel Semple*,
 the Sum of 77 Dollars, for expences of the said
 Commissioners, and that the said Sum ought to be
 paid to *Robert Miller*, Esq; of the County of *Cum-*
berland.

For the Subsistence of *A. Hill Brice*, Captain
 of the 7th Regiment of Foot of royal Fusileers,
 the Sum of 39.5 Dollars, and that the same ought
 to be paid to *Thomas M'Kean*, Esq; and charged to
 the said Captain.

Ordered,

That the said Accounts to be paid.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, Congress
 resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to
 take into their farther consideration the Letter
 from General *Washington* of the 27th *March* last,
 and the Papers therein inclosed, and after some
 time the President resumed the Chair, and Mr.
Harrison reported that the Committee had come to
 a Resolution, on the Matters referred to them,
 which he read and delivered in.

The Report being again read,

Resolved,

That the Consideration thereof be post-
 poned.

Information being given to Congress that *Allan*
Cameron, who is confined in Goal, is in such a
 State of Health as to require the Attendance of a
 Physician, and that he is desirous of the Assistance
 of Doctor *Cadwallader*.

Resolved,

Resolved,

That Doctor *Cadwallader* have leave to ^{*Apr. 25.*} attend him.

The several Matters to this day referred, being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, *April* 26. 1776.

Resolved,

That the Secret Committee be directed ^{*Apr. 26.*} to settle and pay to the Colony of *Connecticut* the Powder lent by the said Colony to General *Washington*, for the Use of the Continent, and to act as they shall judge best for the Public Service, and the Benefit of *Connecticut*, in exchanging the Powder, which the said Colony has in *Philadelphia*, for Powder in the Eastern ports belonging to the Continent.

Resolved,

That 50,000 Dollars be sent to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, and that the President write to the said Committee, and request them to use their utmost Endeavours to have it exchanged for Specie, and remit the same to the Continental Treasurers; and in case they can procure more Specie, that they send it, and draw for the Amount on the Paymaster in *Virginia*, who is ordered to pay such draughts.

Resolved,

That the Sum of 250,000 Dollars be sent to the Paymaster in *Virginia*, for the Use of the Continental Troops, he to be accountable.

A Letter

Apr. 26. A Letter from Doctor *Cadwallader* was laid before Congress and read, giving an Account of *A. Cameron's* State of Health, whereupon

Resolved,

That the said *A. Cameron* be allowed the Benefit of Air in his room, and of walking an Hour every morning in the Yard, in company or presence of the Jailor, and that his uncle Doctor *McClean* from *New-York*, who is now in town, be allowed to converse with him in the Presence of the Jailor.

Edmund Randolph, who was appointed Deputy Muster-Master General of the Southern Department, having been chosen by the Citizens of *Williamsburg* to represent them in Convention, and an Ordinance having been passed, excluding all persons holding any military Post of profit from a Seat therein, begged leave to resign his office.

Resolved,

That the Resignation of Mr. *Randolph* be accepted.

Resolved,

That a Committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the State of the Eastern Department, and report thereon.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *Duane*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To Doctor *Robert Johnson*, for attendance on the 6th Battalion, and for Medicines, the Sum of 53.1 Dollars.

Ordered,

Ordered,

That the said Account be paid:

Apr. 26.

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The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Washington* of the 22 and 23d Instant were referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration, whereupon

Resolved,

That the Pay of the Aids de Camp of the Commander in Chief be raised to *Forty Dollars* a Month.

Resolved,

That none of the Troops already raised, be, for the present, disbanded for want of Arms; and that the General apply to the Convention and Committee of Safety of *New-York* for such Arms, as may have been collected under the Resolve of Congress for disarming Non-Affociators and disaffected Persons, or any other Arms they can supply, and that they be delivered to the *New-York* Troops

Resolved,

That Mr. *Baldwin* the Assistant Engineer ordered to *Canada*, be allowed, in consideration of his merit, the Pay and Rank of Lieutenant Colonel on the Continental Establishment.

Resolved,

That the respective Governments, from whence Militia have come for the Defence of the City of *New-York*, be desired speedily to transmit to Congress authenticated Muster-rolls and Accounts of Monies due to such respective Militias,

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in

*Apr. 26.* in order to their being immediately settled and discharged.

*Resolved,*

That Congress approve the Assistance given by the General to Commodore *Hopkins*.

*Resolved,*

That the farther consideration of the Report be postponed till to-morrow.

Congress then took into consideration the Report of the Committee, on the Petition of Colonel *James Easton*, whereupon

*Resolved,*

That, the claims of the Persons concerned in the Surprize and Reduction of the Fortres of *Ticonderoga*, having already been submitted by Congress to the Committee of *Albany*, the Petitioner be referred to the said Committee of *Albany* for a Settlement of his demand on that account.

As from the Testimonials produced by the Petitioner it appears---that he and his Battalion behaved with great diligence, activity and spirit in the successful Enterprize against General *Prescot*, and the Vessels and Troops under his command in the *River Sorell*, in which important service they were joined by Colonel *Bedel* and a Part of his regiment---that to encourage the Party employed in that important Service, the late General *Montgomery* promised them all the Public Stores, which should be taken in the Vessels under General *Prescot's* command, excepting Ammunition and Provisions; and



and as the Petitioner alledges that no part of those <sup>Apr. 26.</sup> Stores was delivered, nor any composition made to the Troops concerned in the Acquisition, therefore

*Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the General commanding in *Canada*, to appoint Commissioners to estimate all the Public Stores taken with General *Prescot*, (excepting ammunition and provisions) and pay the Value thereof among the Officers and Men employed in that service, in such proportions as the Commissioners shall determine.

As the Petitioner's account of Monies received, and disbursements made by him for the Use of his Regiment, on which he claims a Ballance, can, for want of proper Vouchers and information here, only be adjusted in *Canada*, where the Business was transacted.

*Resolved,*

That the same be referred for settlement in such mode as the Commissioners from Congress in that Province shall direct. But as the Petitioner is in want of money,

*Resolved,*

That *Two hundred* Dollars be advanced to him in part of his demand against the United Colonies.

With regard to the Petitioners request that a Court of Inquiry may be called respecting the Charge against him, and Major *Brown* for plundering the Effects of the Prisoners. As Brigadier-General

*Apr. 26.* General *Arnold* in his letter of the 1st of *February* last alledges; that the Petitioner and Major *Brown* had been publicly accused of plundering the Officers baggage taken at *Sorell*, contrary to the Articles of Capitulation, and to the great Scandal of the *American* arms; for which reason he declared it to be his opinion, that it would give great disgust to the Army in general if either of them should be promoted, until these matters were cleared up; and as the Petitioner asserts his innocence, declaring that he neither plundered, nor directed, nor was privy to the Plundering of any Prisoner or other Person whatever. Considering therefore on one hand, the aggravated Nature of this charge, which is an impediment to the Petitioner's promotion; and on the other, the great Confidence reposed in him by General *Montgomery* and the essential Service, which the Petitioner has rendered to his country.

*Resolved,*

That the Commissioners from Congress in *Canada* be instructed, to cause inquiry to be made by a Court-Martial or otherwise, into the Charge against the Petitioner, giving him an opportunity of making his defence; and that the Proceedings thereon be transmitted to Congress, in order that justice may be done to the Petitioner, if he has been accused without sufficient reason.

The several Matters to this day referred, being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

SATURDAY,

SATURDAY, *April* 27, 1776.

*Apr. 27.*

*Resolved,*

That an order for 350 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. *Edy*, of which 250 for himself, and 100 for *Isaiah Beaudreau*, for services done.

Sundry Letters and Papers from *North-Carolina* were laid before Congress and read, viz.

An Affidavit respecting the Capture of *W. Ginn's* Brig.

A Letter from *Samuel Johnson*, President of the Convention dated the 10th Instant, inclosing sundry resolves of the said Convention, and an extract of a Letter from Brigadier-General *Moore*.

*Resolved,*

That the Affidavit be delivered to the Secret Committee.

That the other Papers be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Sherman*, and Mr. *Alexander*.

Congress proceeded to the Election of a Paymaster General, in the Room of Mr. *Warren*, whose resignation was accepted, and the Ballots being taken and examined,

*William Palfrey*, Esq; was elected.

Congress

*Apr. 27.* Congress also proceeded to the Election of a Deputy Commissary General, for supplying the Troops in *Virginia* with rations, and the Ballots being taken and examined,

*William Aylett, Esq;* was elected.

*Resolved,*

That Mr. *Rodney* and Mr. *Read* be added to the Committee appointed to supply the Troops in *Philadelphia*, and the Battalion in the *Lower Counties on Delaware*.

A Memorial from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* was presented to Congress and read.

The several Matters to this day referred, being postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*,

MONDAY *April 29, 1776.*

*Apr. 27.* Sundry Letters and Papers being received, were laid before Congress and read, viz.

A Letter of the 25th from General *Washington*, inclosing a Return of the Army at *New-York*.

A Letter from Major *Wrixon*, declining to accept the commission of Chief Engineer.

A Letter from the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, with the Examination of *Alexander Ross*, and sundry Papers found in his possession.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

*Apr. 29.*

That the Letter from General *Washington*, and the Letter from the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, with Mr. *Ross's* Papers be referred to a Committee of five.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *Goldborough*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *Rodney*.

Also a Letter of the 19th from General *Lee*, and one from *Thomas Bullet*; and a Petition from Doctor *J. Potts* were read and referred to the said Committee.

*Resolved,*

That Letters be written by the President to General *Schuyler* and the Committee of Safety of *New York*, desiring them to inform this Congress whether the Continental Commissions sent to them for the Officers and Troops raised by *Connecticut* the last campaign were delivered, or offered to them, or to any, and which of them, and whether any, and which of them refused, or accepted the same; and particularly whether commissions were offered to Colonel *Waterbury* and Colonel *Easton*, and whether they refused accepting them.

*Resolved,*

That Captain *Peter Adams* from *Maryland*, under whose custody *Alexander Ross* was brought to *Philadelphia* be dismissed, and that the said *Alexander Ross* be committed to the Care of  
the

*Apr. 29.* the Officer commanding the Continental Troops in  
*Pennsylvania.*

*Resolved,*

That a standing Committee be appointed for *Indian* affairs; that it consist of five: That the Election of the Members be postponed till tomorrow.

*Resolved,*

That the Congress relying on the Integrity and Honour of Captain *A. M'Gee*, order that he be permitted to go at large on giving his Parole to the Committee of *West-Augusta*, not to engage or be concerned in any measure injurious to these Colonies, by stimulating the *Indian* nations to make war against them or otherwise.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Benjamin Marshall* for Tin Cartouch Boxes, the Sum of 465 Dollars.

To *Ephraim Blaine*, Esq; for subsistence, waggonage, and ferriages of the 6th *Pennsylvania* Battalion, the Sum of 27,36 Dollars.

*Ordered,*

That the said Accounts be paid.

Congress resumed the Consideration of the Report of the Committee on General *Washington's* letter of the 19th, &c. whereupon

*Resolved,*

That the Papers from Fort *Pitt* be referred to the Committee appointed, to consider the

the State of *Indian* affairs in the Middle Department. Apr. 29.

*Resolved,*

That no traders ought to go into the *Indian* country without license from the Agent in the Department; and that care be taken by him to prevent exorbitant prices for goods being exacted from the *Indians*.

*Resolved,*

That a Ton of Powder be sent to Mr. G. Morgan, to be distributed to such *Indians* as he shall be convinced are in our interest.

*Resolved,*

That measures be immediately taken to procure goods to supply the *Indians* at the Treaties ordered to be held with them.

*Resolved,*

That the Councils of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*, and the Governors of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, be earnestly requested to take the most speedy and effectual Measures to collect as much hard money in their respective Colonies as possible, and to send the same as collected to General *Schuyler*, and draw upon the President of Congress for the Amount.

*Resolved,*

That the further Consideration of the Report, and the several Matters to this day referred, be postponed till to-morrow, to which time Congress adjourned.

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TUESDAY,

*Apr. 30.* TUESDAY, *April 30, 1776.*

Agreeable to order, Congress proceed to the Election of a standing Committee for *Indian* affairs, when

Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Woolcot*, Mr. *L. Morris*, and Mr. *Rutledge* were elected.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due

To *Matthew Swan* for carrying two brass field pieces from *Philadelphia* to *Williamsburg*, the Sum of 93.6 Dollars, over and beside the Sum of 80 Dollars, paid him by *Robert Erwin*, and 13.3 Dollars, paid by the Committee of *Williamsburg*.

For house-rent, carriage, and other contingent expences of the fourth *Pennsylvania* battalion, the Sum of 358.6 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *John Harper*, Quartermaster of the said Battalion.

For provisions for Captain *Ross's* company supplied by *Charles Jackson*, the Sum of 9.1 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Timothy Matlack*.

*Ordered,*

That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee to whom was referred the Memorial from the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*,  
praying



praying the Advice of Congress, whether they *Apr. 30.* ought to continue the Exercise of the Power of regulating the Price of Goods in other instances than that of Green Tea, brought in their report, which being taken into consideration, was agreed to, whereupon

*Resolved,*

That the ninth Article of the Association, which enjoined the Inhabitants of the United Colonies to sell goods and merchandize at the Rates they had respectively been accustomed to do for twelve months then last past, was in its nature a temporary Regulation respecting the goods then on hand; but as those goods are nearly consumed, and a farther supply must be obtained at an extraordinary risque and expence, and it is reasonable that adventurers should be encouraged by a Prospect of gain adequate to the Danger, which may be incurred in the Importation, and a free Trade being now opened from the United Colonies to all parts of the World, except the Dominions belonging to the King of *Great-Britain*;

*Resolved,*

That the power of Committees of Inspection and Observation to regulate the prices of Goods, in other instances than the article of Green Tea, ought to cease.

Congress took into consideration the report of the Committee on General *Washington's* Letter of the 24th of *March*; whereupon,

*Resolved,*

That the Vessels which were left in the Docks and Harbour at *Boston*, by the Enemy, and which

*Apr. 29* which different Persons claim as their Property, ought to be restored to their former owners, being Inhabitants of these Colonies, on their making proof of their Title, unless the said Parties so claiming, shall have been voluntarily active against the rights of the United Colonies, by affording aid and assistance to the *British* Fleet and Army; and that it be recommended to the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay* to appoint Commissioners to hear such Claims, and determine on the sufficiency of the proof thereof.

*Provided*, That any Person apprehending himself or herself to be aggrieved by the adjudication of the Commissioners, may appeal from their sentence to Congress, such appeal being demanded and lodged with the Secretary of Congress, within the times limited, and the appellant giving security, in the manner prescribed in the case of an appeal from the sentence of a Court appointed for hearing Maritime causes.

*Resolved*,

That the farther consideration of the report be postponed.

*Resolved*,

That an order for 2000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *George Evans*, who has contracted to supply the *Delaware* Battalions with rations, he to be accountable.

The Delegates for *New Jersey* having laid before Congress a number of Bills counterfeited to imitate the Continental Bills of Credit.

*Resolved*,

A P R I L, 1776.

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*Resolved,*

*Apr. 29.*

That a Committee of six be appointed to consider of this Matter, and report thereon to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *M'Kean*, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Braxton*, and Mr. *Duane*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Thursday*,

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